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Double virtual corrections for gluon scattering at NNLO

Gehrmann-De Ridder, A ; Gehrmann, Thomas ; Glover, E W N ; Pires, Joao

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November 13, 2012

Double Virtual corrections for gluon scattering at NNLO

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KEYWORDS: QCD, NNLO Computations, Hadronic Colliders, Jets.

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1. Introduction

In hadronic collisions the most basic form of the strong interaction at short distances is the scattering of a coloured parton off another coloured parton. Experimentally, such scattering can be observed via the production of one or more jets of hadrons with large transverse energy. In QCD, the inclusive cross section has the form,

$$d\sigma(H_1, H_2) = \sum_{i,j} \int \frac{d\xi_1}{\xi_1} \frac{d\xi_2}{\xi_2} f_i(\xi_1, \mu^2) f_j(\xi_2, \mu^2) d\hat{\sigma}_{ij}(\xi_1 H_1, \xi_2 H_2, \alpha_s(\mu))$$

where the probability of finding a parton of type i carrying a momentum fraction ξ of the parent proton momentum H_i is described by the parton distribution function $f_i(\xi, \mu^2) d\xi$ and the partonic scattering cross section $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij}$ for parton i to scatter off a parton j normalised to the hadron-hadron flux¹ is summed over the possible parton types i and j . To simplify the discussion, we have set the renormalisation and factorisation scales to be equal, $\mu_R = \mu_F = \mu$.

For example, let us consider the m -jet cross section. The (renormalised and mass factorised) partonic cross section for a parton of type i scattering off parton of type j , $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij}$ to form m jets has the perturbative expansion

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij}(\xi_1 H_1, \xi_2 H_2, \alpha_s(\mu)) &= d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,LO}(\xi_1 H_1, \xi_2 H_2) + \left(\frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{2\pi} \right) d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}(\xi_1 H_1, \xi_2 H_2) \\ &+ \left(\frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{2\pi} \right)^2 d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}(\xi_1 H_1, \xi_2 H_2) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3) \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

where the next-to-leading order (NLO) and next-to-next-to-leading order (NNLO) strong corrections are identified.

The simplest jet cross sections at hadron colliders are the single jet inclusive and the exclusive or inclusive dijet cross sections. In the single jet inclusive cross section, each identified jet in an event contributes individually. The exclusive dijet cross section consists of all events with exactly two identified jets, while events with two or more identified jets contribute to the inclusive dijet cross section. These cross sections have been studied as functions of different kinematical variables: the transverse momentum and rapidity of the jets (of any jet for the single jet inclusive distribution, or of the two largest transverse momentum jets for the dijet distributions). Precision measurements of single jet and dijet cross sections have been performed by CDF [1] and D0 [2] at the Tevatron and by ATLAS [3, 4] and CMS [5, 6, 7] at the LHC.

The single jet inclusive jet cross section has been analysed in view of a determination of the parton distributions in the proton [8]. Tevatron data on this observable are included in nearly all global fits of parton distributions, where they provide important constraints on the large- x behaviour of the gluon distribution. Likewise, measurements of the jet and dijet cross section can be used to extract the strong coupling constant α_s up to scales that are otherwise unattainable with other collider measurements [9].

¹The partonic cross section normalised to the parton-parton flux is obtained by absorbing the inverse factors of ξ_1 and ξ_2 into $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij}$.

All these precision studies rely at present on NLO theory predictions for jet cross sections [10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16]. The uncertainty inherent to these predictions is the dominant source of error in the extraction of α_s . A consistent inclusion of jet data in global fits of parton distributions at a given order also requires the perturbative description of the jet cross section to this order. Consequently, the inclusion of jet data in the NNLO parton distribution fits introduces an unquantified systematic error. The NNLO corrections to jet production are therefore of crucial importance for precision physics studies of QCD and of the structure of the proton at hadron colliders.

At LO, the m -jet cross section is obtained by evaluating the tree-level cross section for processes with m -partons in the final state (i.e., the processes involving $(m+2)$ -partons with two partons in the initial state), and requiring that each final state parton is identified as a jet by some jet algorithm. In other words,

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,LO}(\xi_1 H_1, \xi_2 H_2) = \int_{d\Phi_N} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,LO}^B(\xi_1 H_1, \xi_2 H_2) \quad (1.2)$$

where the Born-level partonic cross section is integrated over the N -parton final state $d\Phi_N$ subject to the constraint that precisely m jets are observed by the jet algorithm $J_m^{(N)}$,

$$\int_{d\Phi_N} \equiv \int d\Phi_N J_m^{(N)}. \quad (1.3)$$

In this case of course, $N = m$.

Suppose we now want to compute the m -jet cross section to NLO. For this, we have to consider the real radiation cross section $d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^R$ with $(m+1)$ partons in the final state, the one-loop correction $d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^V$ with m partons in the final state, and a mass factorisation counter-term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^{MF}$ that absorbs the divergences arising from initial state collinear radiation into the parton densities:

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO} = \int_{d\Phi_{m+1}} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^R + \int_{d\Phi_m} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^V + \int_{d\Phi_m} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^{MF}. \quad (1.4)$$

The mass factorisation counter term is related to the LO cross section through

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^{MF}(\xi_1 H_1, \xi_2 H_2) = - \int \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \Gamma_{ij;kl}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) d\hat{\sigma}_{kl,LO}(z_1 \xi_1 H_1, z_2 \xi_2 H_2), \quad (1.5)$$

where

$$\Gamma_{ij;kl}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) = \delta(1-z_2) \delta_{lj} \Gamma_{ki}^{(1)}(z_1) + \delta(1-z_1) \delta_{ki} \Gamma_{lj}^{(1)}(z_2), \quad (1.6)$$

and $\Gamma_{ij}^{(1)}(z)$ is the one-loop Altarelli-Parisi kernel.

The terms on the right hand side of (1.4) are separately divergent although their sum is finite. To write a Monte Carlo program to compute the NLO contribution to the cross section, we must first isolate and cancel the singularities of the different pieces and then numerically evaluate the finite remainders.

Subtraction schemes are a well established solution to this problem. They work by finding a suitable counter-term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^S$ for $d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^R$. This subtraction term has to satisfy two properties, namely it must have the same singular behaviour in all appropriate unresolved

limits as $d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^R$ and yet be simple enough to be integrated analytically over all singular regions of the $(m+1)$ -parton phase space in d dimensions. We proceed by rewriting (1.4) in the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO} &= \int_{d\Phi_{m+1}} (d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^R - d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^S) \\ &+ \int_{d\Phi_m} \left(\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^S + d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^V + d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^{MF} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (1.7)$$

In its unintegrated form the subtraction term, $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^S$, has the same singular behaviour as $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^R$ such that the first integral is finite by definition and can be integrated numerically in four dimensions over the $(m+1)$ -parton phase space. The integrated form of the counter-term $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^S$ analytically cancels the explicit singularities of the virtual contribution $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^V$ and the mass factorisation counter-term $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NLO}^{MF}$. After checking the cancellation of the pole pieces, we can take the finite remainders of these contributions and perform the last integral on the right hand side of (1.7) numerically over the m -parton phase space.

At NNLO, there are three distinct contributions due to double real radiation radiation $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{RR}$, mixed real-virtual radiation $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{RV}$ and double virtual radiation $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{VV}$, plus two NNLO mass factorisation counter terms, $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{MF,1}$ and $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{MF,2}$, such that

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO} &= \int_{d\Phi_{m+2}} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{RR} + \int_{d\Phi_{m+1}} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{RV} + \int_{d\Phi_m} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{VV} \\ &+ \int_{d\Phi_{m+1}} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{MF,1} + \int_{d\Phi_m} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{MF,2} \end{aligned} \quad (1.8)$$

where the integration is again over the appropriate N -particle final state subject to the constraint that precisely m -jets are observed. As usual the individual contributions in the m -, $(m+1)$ - and $(m+2)$ -parton final states are all separately infrared divergent although, after renormalisation and factorisation, their sum is finite.

The NNLO mass factorisation counter-terms contributing to the $(m+1)$ - and m -particle final states are given by,

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{MF,1}(\xi_1 H_1, \xi_2 H_2) &= - \int \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \\ &\times \Gamma_{ij;kl}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) \left[d\hat{\sigma}_{kl,NLO}^R - d\hat{\sigma}_{kl,NLO}^S \right] (z_1 \xi_1 H_1, z_2 \xi_2 H_2), \end{aligned} \quad (1.9)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{MF,2}(\xi_1 H_1, \xi_2 H_2) &= - \int \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \\ &\times \left[\Gamma_{ij;kl}^{(2)}(z_1, z_2) d\hat{\sigma}_{kl,LO}(z_1 \xi_1 H_1, z_2 \xi_2 H_2) \right. \\ &\left. + \Gamma_{ij;kl}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) \left[\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{kl,NLO}^S + d\hat{\sigma}_{kl,NLO}^V + d\hat{\sigma}_{kl,NLO}^{MF} \right] (z_1 \xi_1 H_1, z_2 \xi_2 H_2) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (1.10)$$

respectively, where

$$\Gamma_{ij;kl}^{(2)}(z_1, z_2) = \delta(1 - z_2) \delta_{lj} \Gamma_{ki}^{(2)}(z_1) + \delta(1 - z_1) \delta_{ki} \Gamma_{lj}^{(2)}(z_2) + \Gamma_{ki}^{(1)}(z_1) \Gamma_{lj}^1(z_2) \quad (1.11)$$

and $\Gamma_{ij}^{(2)}(z)$ is the two-loop Altarelli-Parisi kernel.

Following the same logic as at NLO, we introduce subtraction terms. The first, $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^S$, must correctly describe the single and double unresolved regions of the double real radiation contribution for $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{RR}$. The second, $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS}$, must cancel the explicit poles in $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{RV}$ as well as reproducing the single unresolved limits. The general form for the subtraction terms for an m -particle final state at NNLO is therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO} = & \int_{d\Phi_{m+2}} (d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{RR} - d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^S) + \int_{d\Phi_{m+2}} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^S \\ & + \int_{d\Phi_{m+1}} (d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{RV} - d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{VS}) + \int_{d\Phi_{m+1}} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{VS} + \int_{d\Phi_{m+1}} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{MF,1} \\ & + \int_{d\Phi_m} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{VV} + \int_{d\Phi_m} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{MF,2}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.12)$$

Note that because the analytic integration of the subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^S$ over the single and double unresolved regions of phase space gives contributions to both the $(m+1)$ - and m -parton final states, we can explicitly decompose the integrated double real subtraction term into two pieces that are integrated over the phase space of either one or two unresolved particles respectively,

$$\int_{d\Phi_{m+2}} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^S = \int_{d\Phi_{m+1}} \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{S,1} + \int_{d\Phi_m} \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{S,2}. \quad (1.13)$$

We can therefore rewrite Eq. (1.12) such that each line corresponds to a different number of final state particles,

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO} = & \int_{d\Phi_{m+2}} [d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{RR} - d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^S] \\ & + \int_{d\Phi_{m+1}} [d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{RV} - d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^T] \\ & + \int_{d\Phi_m} [d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{VV} - d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^U], \end{aligned} \quad (1.14)$$

where each of the square brackets is finite and well behaved in the infrared singular regions. More precisely,

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^T = d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{VS} - \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{S,1} - d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{MF,1}, \quad (1.15)$$

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^U = - \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{VS} - \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{S,2} - d\hat{\sigma}_{ij,NNLO}^{MF,2}. \quad (1.16)$$

So far, the discussion has been quite general, and the form of the subtraction terms not specified. At NLO, there are several very well defined approaches for systematically

constructing NLO subtraction terms, notably those due to Catani and Seymour [17] and Frixione, Kunzst and Signer [18].

Several subtraction schemes for NNLO calculations have been proposed in the literature, where they are worked out to a varying level of detail. Up to now, successful applications of subtraction at NNLO to specific observables were accomplished with sector decomposition [19, 20, 21, 22, 23], q_T -subtraction [24], antenna subtraction [25] and most recently with an approach based on sector-improved residue subtraction [26, 27]. The sector decomposition approach relies on an iterated decomposition of the final state phase space and matrix element, allowing an expansion in distributions, followed by a numerical evaluation of the sector integrals. It has been successfully applied to Higgs production [28, 29, 30] and vector boson production [31] at NNLO. The q_T -subtraction method is restricted to processes with colourless final states at leading order, it is based on the universal infrared structure of the real emissions, which can be inferred from transverse momentum resummation. This method has been applied at NNLO to the Higgs production [32], vector boson production [33, 34], associated VH -production [35], photon pair production [36] and in modified form to top quark decay [37]. Antenna subtraction is described in detail below and has been applied to three-jet production in electron-positron annihilation [38, 39, 40, 41, 42] and related event shape distributions [43, 44, 45, 46, 47]. The sector-improved residue subtraction extends NLO residue subtraction [18], combined with a numerical evaluation of the integrated subtraction terms. It has been applied to compute the NNLO corrections to top quark pair production [48, 49, 50].

Here, we are interested in the application of the antenna subtraction scheme to hadron-hadron collisions, and specifically to processes such as $pp \rightarrow \text{jet} + X$, $pp \rightarrow V + \text{jet} + X$ (with $V = W^\pm$ or Z) and $pp \rightarrow H + \text{jet} + X$. The formalism has been fully worked out for processes with massless partons and initial state hadrons at NLO [51] and NNLO [52, 53, 54, 55]. The extension of antenna subtraction for the production of heavy particles at hadron colliders has been studied in Refs. [56, 57, 58, 59]. Within this approach, the subtraction terms are constructed from so-called antenna functions which describe all unresolved partonic radiation (soft and collinear) between a hard pair of radiator partons. The hard radiators may be in the initial or in the final state, and in the most general case, final-final (FF), initial-final (IF) and initial-initial (II) antennae need to be considered. The subtraction terms and therefore the antennae also need to be integrated analytically over the unresolved phase space, which is different in the three configurations. All of the integrals relevant for processes at NNLO with massless quarks have now been completed [52, 53, 54, 55].

In previous papers [60, 61], the subtraction terms $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^S$ and $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^T$ corresponding to the leading colour pure gluon contribution to dijet production at hadron colliders were derived. $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^S$ was shown to reproduce the singular behaviour present in $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{RR}$ in all of the single and double unresolved limits, while $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^T$ analytically cancelled the explicit infrared poles present in $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{RV}$ and also reproduced the singular behaviour in the single unresolved limits.

It is the purpose of this paper to construct the appropriate subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$ to render the leading colour four-gluon double virtual contribution $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VV}$ explicitly finite and numerically well behaved in all of phase space.

Our paper is organised in the following way. In Sect. 2, the general structure of $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,2}$ and $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS}$ is discussed and analysed, together with the detailed structure for gluon scattering at leading-order in the number of colours.

We review gluon scattering at LO and NLO in Sect. 3. There are two separate configurations relevant for $gg \rightarrow gg$ scattering depending on whether the two initial state gluons are colour-connected or not. We denote the configuration where the two initial state gluons are colour-connected (i.e. adjacent) by IIFF, while the configuration where the two initial state gluons are not colour-connected is denoted by IFIF. Our notation for gluonic amplitudes is summarised in Sect. 3.1 while the one-loop, unintegrated and integrated subtraction contributions and mass factorisation terms at NLO are reviewed in Sect. 3.2

In Sect. 4 we turn our attention to the specific process of gluon scattering at NNLO. We consider the infrared pole structure of the two-loop four-gluon amplitudes in Sect. 4.1. The integrated subtraction terms $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,2}$ and $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS}$ are presented in Sect. 4.2 and the mass factorisation term discussed in Sect. 4.3. Together, these combine to give the double virtual subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$ and explicit forms for the IIFF and IFIF configurations are given in Sect. 4.4 where the cancellation of explicit poles between $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VV}$ and $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$ is made manifest. Finally, our findings are summarised in Sect. 5.

Two appendices are also enclosed. Appendix A summarises the phase space mappings for the final-final, initial-final and initial-initial configurations. Appendix B collects the splitting functions relevant to gluon scattering. Appendix C gives details of the convolutions of integrated tree-level antennae appearing in $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$.

2. Double virtual antenna subtraction at NNLO

In this paper, we focus on the scattering of two massless coloured partons to produce massless coloured partons, and particularly the production of jets from gluon scattering in hadronic collisions. We follow closely the notation of Refs. [60, 61]. The leading-order parton-level contribution from the $(m+2)$ -parton processes to the m -jet cross section at LO in pp collisions,

$$pp \rightarrow m \text{ jets} \quad (2.1)$$

is given by

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{LO} = \mathcal{N}_{LO} \sum_{\text{perms}} d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; p_1, p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \\ \times |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\hat{1}, \hat{2}, \dots, m+2)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

We denote a generic tree-level $(m+2)$ -parton colour ordered amplitude by the symbol $\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\hat{1}, \hat{2}, \dots, m+2)$, where $\hat{1}$ and $\hat{2}$ denote the initial state partons of momenta p_1 and p_2 while the m -momenta in the final state are labeled p_3, \dots, p_{m+2} . For convenience, and where the order of momenta does not matter, we will often denote the set of $(m+2)$ -momenta $\{p_1, \dots, p_{m+2}\}$ by $\{p\}_{m+2}$. The symmetry factor S_m accounts for the production of identical particles in the final-state.

This squared matrix element is decomposed in a colour-ordered manner into leading and sub-leading colour contributions (as for example derived explicitly in [38]). At leading colour, $|\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots)|^2$ consists of the squares of the colour-ordered amplitudes, while at sub-leading colour, it is made from the appropriate sum of interference terms of colour-ordered amplitudes. Both at leading and sub-leading colour, $|\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots)|^2$ can be decomposed such that each potentially unresolved parton is colour connected to only two other partons.

For gluonic amplitudes the permutation sum runs over the group of non-cyclic permutations of n symbols. The normalisation factor, \mathcal{N}_{LO} , includes the hadron-hadron flux-factor, spin and colour summed and averaging factors as well as the dependence on the renormalised QCD coupling constant α_s .

The $2 \rightarrow m$ particle phase space $d\Phi_m$ is given by

$$d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; p_1, p_2) = \frac{d^{d-1}p_3}{2E_3(2\pi)^{d-1}} \cdots \frac{d^{d-1}p_{m+2}}{2E_{m+2}(2\pi)^{d-1}} (2\pi)^d \delta^d(p_1 + p_2 - p_3 - \dots - p_{m+2}). \quad (2.3)$$

The jet function $J_m^{(n)}(\{p\}_{n+2})$ defines the procedure for building m jets from n final state partons. The key property of $J_m^{(n)}$ is that the jet observable is collinear and infrared safe.

In a previous paper [60], we discussed the NNLO contribution coming from processes where two additional partons are radiated, the double real contribution $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{RR}$ and its subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^S$. $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{RR}$ involves the $(m+4)$ -parton process at tree level and is given by,

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{RR} = \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{RR} \sum_{\text{perms}} d\Phi_{m+2}(p_3, \dots, p_{m+4}; p_1, p_2) \frac{1}{S_{m+2}} \times |\mathcal{M}_{m+4}(\hat{1}, \hat{2}, \dots, m+4)|^2 J_m^{(m+2)}(\{p\}_{m+4}). \quad (2.4)$$

Subsequently in [61] we discussed the NNLO contribution from one-loop processes where one additional parton is radiated, the real-virtual contribution $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{RV}$ and its subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^T$. $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{RV}$ involves the $(m+3)$ -parton process at one-loop and is given by,

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{RV} = \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{RV} \sum_{\text{perms}} d\Phi_{m+1}(p_3, \dots, p_{m+3}; p_1, p_2) \frac{1}{S_{m+1}} \times |\mathcal{M}_{m+3}^1(\hat{1}, \dots, m+3)|^2 J_m^{(m+1)}(\{p\}_{m+3}), \quad (2.5)$$

where we introduced a shorthand notation for the interference of one-loop and tree-amplitudes,

$$|\mathcal{M}_{m+3}^1(\hat{1}, \dots, m+3)|^2 = 2 \text{Re} \left(\mathcal{M}_{m+3}^1(\hat{1}, \dots, m+3) \mathcal{M}_{m+3}^{0,*}(\hat{1}, \dots, m+3) \right), \quad (2.6)$$

which explicitly captures the colour-ordering of the leading colour contributions.

In this paper, we are concerned with the NNLO contribution coming from two-loop processes, i.e., the $(m+2)$ -parton process, $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VV}$ and the remaining subtraction and mass factorisation contributions that are collectively denoted $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$.

In our notation, the two loop $(m+2)$ -parton contribution to m -jet final states at NNLO in hadron-hadron collisions is given by

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VV} &= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \sum_{\text{perms}} d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; p_1, p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \\ &\times |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^2(\hat{1}, \dots, m+2)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}), \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

where again we use a shorthand notation for the interference of two-loop and tree-amplitudes plus the one-loop squared contribution,

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^2(\hat{1}, \dots, m+2)|^2 &= 2 \operatorname{Re} \left(\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^2(\hat{1}, \dots, m+2) \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^{0,*}(\hat{1}, \dots, m+2) \right) \\ &+ \left(\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^1(\hat{1}, \dots, m+2) \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^{1,*}(\hat{1}, \dots, m+2) \right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.8)$$

The subleading contributions in colour are implicitly included in (2.4), (2.6) and (2.8) but will not be considered in detail in this paper.

The normalisation factor \mathcal{N}_{LO} depends on the specific process and parton channel under consideration. Nevertheless, at leading colour \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} , \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{RV} and \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{RR} are simply related to \mathcal{N}_{LO} for any number of jets and for any partonic process by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} &= \mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right)^2 \bar{C}(\epsilon)^2, \\ \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{RV} &= \mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right)^2 \frac{\bar{C}(\epsilon)^2}{C(\epsilon)}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

$$\mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{RR} = \mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right)^2 \frac{\bar{C}(\epsilon)^2}{C(\epsilon)^2}, \quad (2.10)$$

where

$$C(\epsilon) = (4\pi)^\epsilon \frac{e^{-\epsilon\gamma}}{8\pi^2}, \quad (2.11)$$

$$\bar{C}(\epsilon) = (4\pi)^\epsilon e^{-\epsilon\gamma}. \quad (2.12)$$

Note that each power of the (bare) coupling is accompanied by a factor of $\bar{C}(\epsilon)$. In this paper, we are mainly concerned with the NNLO corrections to (2.1) when $m = 2$ and for the pure gluon channel at leading order in the number of colours. For this special case, the leading order normalisation factor \mathcal{N}_{LO} is given by

$$\mathcal{N}_{LO} = \frac{1}{2s} \times \frac{1}{4(N^2 - 1)^2} \times (g^2 N)^2 (N^2 - 1) \quad (2.13)$$

where s is the invariant mass squared of the colliding hadrons.

The renormalised two-loop virtual correction \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^2 to the $(m+2)$ -parton matrix element in Eq. (2.7) contains explicit global infrared poles, which can be expressed using the infrared singularity operators defined in [62, 63]. As discussed in Sect. 1, in order to carry out the numerical integration over the m -parton phase, weighted by the appropriate

jet function, we have to construct an infrared subtraction term² $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$ which removes these explicit infrared poles of the double virtual $(m+2)$ -parton matrix element.

The subtraction term has three components given by Eq. (1.16). $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,2}$ is derived from the double real radiation subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^S$ integrated over the phase space of two unresolved particles and $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS}$ is derived from the real-virtual subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS}$ integrated over the single unresolved phase space. These two contributions partially cancel the explicit poles in the double virtual matrix element. The remaining poles are associated with the initial state collinear singularities and are absorbed by the mass factorisation counter-term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{MF,2}$.

One of the key features of any infrared subtraction scheme is the factorisation of the matrix elements and phase space in the singular limits where one or more particles are unresolved. In the antenna subtraction scheme, this factorisation is achieved through an appropriate phase space mapping described in Appendix A, such that the singularities are isolated in an antenna that multiplies matrix elements which involve only hard partons with redefined momenta. In determining the various contributions to $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$, we shall therefore specify the integrated antennae and the reduced colour ordered matrix-element squared involved. For conciseness, only the redefined hard radiator momenta will be specified in the functional dependence of the matrix element squared. The other momenta will simply be denoted by ellipsis.

In order to combine the integrated subtraction terms and the double virtual matrix elements, it is convenient to slightly modify the phase space, such that

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VV} = \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \sum_{\text{perms}} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \\ \times |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^2(\hat{1}, \dots, m+2)|^2 \delta(1-z_1) \delta(1-z_2) J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) . \end{aligned} \quad (2.14)$$

The integration over z_1 and z_2 reflects the fact that the subtraction terms contain contributions due to radiation from the initial state such that the parton momenta involved in the hard scattering carry only a fraction z_i of the incoming momenta. In general, there are three regions: the soft ($z_1 = z_2 = 1$), collinear ($z_1 = 1, z_2 \neq 1$ and $z_1 \neq 1, z_2 = 1$) and hard ($z_1 \neq 1, z_2 \neq 1$). The double virtual matrix elements only contribute in the soft region, as indicated by the two delta functions.

In Sections 2.1 and 2.2, we discuss the first two terms that contribute to $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$ given in Eq. (1.16), namely $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,2}$ and $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS}$. The final contribution $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{MF,2}$ is discussed in Section 4.4.

2.1 Contributions from integration of double real subtraction term: $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,2}$

There are five different types of contributions to $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^S$ according to the colour connection of the unresolved partons [25, 38]:

²Strictly speaking, $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$ is not a subtraction term since it is made up of integrated subtraction terms from the double real radiation and real-virtual radiation. Nevertheless, since it contains all the terms needed to render the m -particle final state finite, it is convenient to call it the double virtual subtraction term.

	a	b	b, c	d	e
$d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^S$	$X_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+3}^0 ^2$	$X_4^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$	$X_3^0 X_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$	$X_3^0 X_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$	$S X_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$
$\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,1}$	$\mathcal{X}_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+3}^0 ^2$	–	$\mathcal{X}_3^0 X_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$	–	$S X_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$
$\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,2}$	–	$\mathcal{X}_4^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$	–	$\mathcal{X}_3^0 \mathcal{X}_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$	–

Table 1: Type of contribution to the double real subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^S$, together with the integrated form of each term. The unintegrated antenna and soft functions are denoted as X_3^0 , X_4^0 and S while their integrated forms are \mathcal{X}_3^0 , \mathcal{X}_4^0 and \mathcal{S} respectively. \mathcal{M}_n^0 denotes an n -particle tree-level colour ordered amplitude.

- (a) One unresolved parton but the experimental observable selects only m jets.
- (b) Two colour-connected unresolved partons (colour-connected).
- (c) Two unresolved partons that are not colour-connected but share a common radiator (almost colour-connected).
- (d) Two unresolved partons that are well separated from each other in the colour chain (colour-unconnected).
- (e) Compensation terms for the over subtraction of large angle soft emission.

In the antenna subtraction approach, each type of contribution takes the form of antenna functions multiplied by colour ordered matrix elements. The various types of contributions are summarised in Table 1. We see that on the one hand the a , c and e types of subtraction terms, as well as the b -type terms that are products of three-particle antennae, can be integrated over a single unresolved particle phase space and therefore contribute to the $(m+1)$ -particle final state of the real-virtual contribution. This was described in detail in [61]. On the other hand the double unresolved antenna functions X_4^0 contribution to $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b}$ (which we denote by $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4}$) and the colour-unconnected $X_3^0 X_3^0$ terms of $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,d}$ can immediately be integrated over the phase space of both unresolved particles and appear directly in the m -particle final state of the double virtual contribution,

$$\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,2} = \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4} + \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,d}. \quad (2.15)$$

We now turn to a detailed discussion of each of the terms in Eq. (2.15).

2.1.1 Integration of colour connected double unresolved antennae: $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4}$

In the antenna subtraction approach, the colour-connected double unresolved configuration coming from the tree-level process with two additional particles, i.e., the double real process involving $(m+4)$ partons, is subtracted using a four-particle antenna function - two hard radiator partons emitting two unresolved partons. Once it is integrated over the unresolved phase space of both partons, one recovers an $(m+2)$ -parton contribution that cancels explicit pole contributions in the virtual two-loop $(m+2)$ -parton matrix element.

The integrated subtraction term formally written as $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4}$ is split into three different contributions, depending on whether the hard radiators are in the initial or final state.

When both hard radiators i and l are in the final state, then X_{ijkl}^0 is a final-final (FF) antenna function that describes all colour connected double unresolved singular configurations (for this colour-ordered amplitude) where partons j, k are unresolved. The subtraction term, summing over all possible positions of the unresolved partons, reads,

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4(FF)} &= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{RR} \sum_{\text{perms}} d\Phi_{m+2}(p_3, \dots, p_{m+4}; p_1, p_2) \frac{1}{S_{m+2}} \\ &\times \sum_{j,k} X_{ijkl}^0 |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots, I, L, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.16)$$

Besides the four parton antenna function X_{ijkl}^0 which depends only on p_i, p_j, p_k and p_l , the subtraction term involves an $(m+2)$ -parton amplitude depending on the redefined on-shell momenta p_I and p_L , whose definition in terms of the original momenta is given in Appendix A.1. The $(m+2)$ -parton amplitude also depends on the other final state momenta which, in the final-final map, are not redefined and on the two initial state momenta p_1 and p_2 . This dependence is manifest as the ellipsis in (2.16). The jet function is applied to the m final state momenta that remain after the mapping, i.e., $\{p_3, \dots, p_I, p_L, \dots, p_{m+4}\} \equiv \{p\}_{m+2}$.

To perform the integration of the subtraction term in Eq. (2.16) and make its infrared poles explicit, we exploit the following factorisation of the phase space,

$$\begin{aligned} d\Phi_{m+2}(p_3, \dots, p_{m+4}; p_1, p_2) \\ = d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \\ \times \delta(1 - z_1) \delta(1 - z_2) d\Phi_{X_{ijkl}}(p_i, p_j, p_k, p_l; p_i + p_j + p_k + p_l), \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

where we have simply relabelled the final-state momenta. In (2.17) the antenna phase space $d\Phi_{X_{ijkl}}$ is proportional to the four-particle phase space relevant to a $1 \rightarrow 4$ decay, and one can define the integrated final-final antenna by

$$\mathcal{X}_{ijkl}^0(s_{IL}, z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{[C(\epsilon)]^2} \int d\Phi_{X_{ijkl}} X_{ijkl}^0 \delta(1 - z_1) \delta(1 - z_2), \quad (2.18)$$

where $C(\epsilon)$ is given by (2.11). The integrated double unresolved contribution in this final-final configuration then reads,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4(FF)} &= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \sum_{\text{perms}} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \\ &\times \sum_{il} \mathcal{X}_{ijkl}^0(s_{il}, z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots, i, l, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \end{aligned} \quad (2.19)$$

where the sum runs over all colour-connected pairs of final state momenta (p_i, p_l) and the final state momenta I, L have been relabelled as i, l . Expressions for the integrated final-final four-parton antennae are available in Ref. [25].

When only one of the hard radiator partons is in the initial state, $X_{i,jkl}^0$ is a initial-final (IF) antenna function that describes all colour connected double unresolved configurations (for this colour-ordered amplitude) where partons j, k are unresolved between the initial state parton denoted by \hat{i} (where $\hat{i} = \hat{1}$ or $\hat{i} = \hat{2}$) and the final state parton l . The antenna only depends on these four parton momenta p_i, p_j, p_k and p_l . The subtraction term, summing over all possible positions of the unresolved partons, reads,

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4(IF)} &= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{RR} \sum_{\text{perms}} d\Phi_{m+2}(p_3, \dots, p_{m+4}; p_1, p_2) \frac{1}{S_{m+2}} \\ &\times \sum_{i=1,2} \sum_{j,k} X_{i,jkl}^0 |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots, \hat{I}, L, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.20)$$

As in the final-final case, the reduced $(m+2)$ -parton matrix element squared involves the mapped momenta \hat{I} and L which are defined in Appendix A.2. Likewise, the jet algorithm acts on the m -final state momenta that remain after the mapping has been applied.

In this case, the phase space in (2.20) can be factorised into the convolution of an m -particle phase space, involving only the redefined momenta, with a $2 \rightarrow 3$ particle phase space [51]. For the special case $i = 1$, it reads,

$$\begin{aligned} d\Phi_{m+2}(p_3, \dots, p_{m+4}; p_1, p_2) \\ = d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \delta(z_1 - \hat{z}_1) \delta(1 - z_2) \frac{Q^2}{2\pi} d\Phi_3(p_j, p_k, p_l; p_1, q) \end{aligned} \quad (2.21)$$

with $Q^2 = -q^2$ and $q = p_j + p_k + p_l - p_1$ and where we have also relabelled the final-state momenta. The quantity \hat{z}_1 is defined in Eq. (A.7).

Using this factorisation property, one can carry out the integration over the unresolved phase space of the antenna function in (2.20) analytically. We define the integrated initial-final antenna function by,

$$\mathcal{X}_{1,jkl}^0(s_{\bar{1}L}, z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{[C(\epsilon)]^2} \int d\Phi_3 \frac{Q^2}{2\pi} \delta(z_1 - \hat{z}_1) \delta(1 - z_2) X_{1,jkl}^0, \quad (2.22)$$

where $C(\epsilon)$ is given in (2.11). Similar expressions are obtained when $i = 2$ via exchange of z_1 and z_2 ,

$$\mathcal{X}_{2,jkl}^0(s_{\bar{2}L}, z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{[C(\epsilon)]^2} \int d\Phi_3 \frac{Q^2}{2\pi} \delta(z_2 - \hat{z}_2) \delta(1 - z_1) X_{2,jkl}^0. \quad (2.23)$$

The integrated double unresolved contribution in this initial-final configuration then reads,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4(IF)} &= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \sum_{\text{perms}} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \\ &\sum_{i=1,2} \sum_l \mathcal{X}_{i,jkl}^0(s_{\bar{i}l}, z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots, \hat{i}, l, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}). \end{aligned}$$

In this expression, the redefined final-state momentum L (relabelled as l) and the rescaled initial state radiator $\hat{I}(=\hat{i}=z_i p_i)$ appears in the functional dependence of the integrated antenna and in the matrix-element squared. The other rescaled initial state momentum $\hat{r}=z_r p_r$ with $r=1,2$ with $r \neq i$, does not appear explicitly but forms part of the ellipsis. Explicit expressions for the integrated initial-final four-parton antennae are available in Ref. [52].

If we consider the case where the two hard radiator partons i and l are both in the initial state, then $X_{il,jk}^0$ is a initial-initial (II) antenna function that describes all colour connected double unresolved singular configurations (for this colour-ordered amplitude) where partons j, k are unresolved. The subtraction term, summing over all possible positions of the unresolved partons, reads,

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4,(II)} &= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{RR} \sum_{\text{perms}} d\Phi_{m+2}(p_3, \dots, p_{m+4}; p_1, p_2) \frac{1}{S_{m+2}} \\ &\times \sum_{i,l=1,2} \sum_j X_{il,jk}^0 |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots, \hat{I}, \hat{L}, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\tilde{p}_3, \dots, \tilde{p}_{m+4}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.24)$$

where as usual we denote momenta in the initial state with a hat. The radiators \hat{i} and \hat{l} are replaced by new rescaled initial state partons \hat{I} and \hat{L} and all other spectator momenta are Lorentz boosted to preserve momentum conservation as described in Appendix A.3.

For the initial-initial configuration the phase space in (2.24) factorises into the convolution of an m -particle phase space, involving only redefined momenta, with the phase space of partons j, k [51] so that when $i=1$ and $l=2$,

$$\begin{aligned} d\Phi_{m+2}(p_3, \dots, p_{m+4}; p_1, p_2) \\ = d\Phi_m(\tilde{p}_3, \dots, \tilde{p}_{m+4}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \times z_1 z_2 \delta(z_1 - \hat{z}_1) \delta(z_2 - \hat{z}_2) [dp_j] [dp_k] \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.25)$$

where the single particle phase space measure is $[dp_j] = d^{d-1}p_j/2E_j/(2\pi)^{d-1}$ and \hat{z}_i is defined in Eq. (A.10).

The only dependence on the original momenta lies in the antenna function $X_{il,jk}^0$ and the antenna phase space. One can therefore carry out the integration over the unresolved phase space analytically, to find the integrated antenna function,

$$\mathcal{X}_{12,jk}^0(s_{1\bar{2}}, z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{[C(\epsilon)]^2} \int [dp_j] [dp_k] z_1 z_2 \delta(z_1 - \hat{z}_1) \delta(z_2 - \hat{z}_2) X_{12,jk}^0 \quad (2.26)$$

where $C(\epsilon)$ is given in Eq. (2.11). Explicit forms for the integrated initial-initial four-parton antennae are available in Refs. [53, 55]. The integrated double unresolved contribution in this initial-initial configuration then reads,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4,(II)} &= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \sum_{\text{perms}} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \\ &\times \sum_{i,l=1,2} \mathcal{X}_{il,jk}^0(s_{i\bar{l}}, z_i, z_l) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots, \hat{i}, \hat{l}, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.27)$$

As in the initial-final case, the redefined initial state momenta are $\hat{I} = \hat{i} = z_i p_i$ and $\hat{L} = \hat{l} = z_l p_l$. All of the final-state momenta affected by the initial-initial mapping are simply relabelled, $\tilde{p}_k \rightarrow p_k$.

Note that in general, there may be several different four-parton antennae depending on which particles have been crossed into the initial state, and on whether these particles are directly colour connected (adjacent) or nearly colour connected (non-adjacent). In the gluonic case, there are two possibilities, the adjacent case (bearing in mind the cyclic properties of the gluonic matrix elements), $F_4^0(1, j, k, 2)$, and the nearly colour connected (or non-adjacent) case, $F_4^0(1, j, 2, k)$. Upon integration, both of the gluonic antennae will depend on $s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}$ and are labelled $\mathcal{F}_{4,adj}^0$ and $\mathcal{F}_{4,nonadj}^0$ respectively.

So far, we have discussed the individual terms cascading down from the double real subtraction term $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4}$. Collecting up terms proportional to a single colour ordering denoted by (\dots) , we find a contribution of the form,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4} = & \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \\ & \times \mathbb{X}_4^0(\dots; z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots)|^2 \end{aligned} \quad (2.28)$$

where the ellipsis refers to the colour ordering of the partons and for gluon scattering

$$\mathbb{X}_4^0(\dots; z_1, z_2) = \sum_{ab} \frac{1}{S_{ab}^{X_4}} \mathcal{X}_{4,ab}^0(s_{ab}, z_1, z_2) \quad (2.29)$$

where the sum runs over the colour connected pairs (a, b) in the cyclic list (\dots) . The integrated double unresolved antenna $\mathcal{X}_{4,ab}^0(s_{ab}, z_1, z_2)$ represents the sum over the antennae obtained by inserting two unresolved particles between and around the hard radiator pair (a, b) . $S_{ab}^{X_4}$ is the symmetry factor associated with the integrated antenna. For gluons, $S_{ab}^{F_4} = 4$ for the final-final case, $S_{ab}^{F_4} = 2$ for the initial-final case and $S_{ab}^{F_4} = 1$ and $S_{ab}^{F_4} = 2$ for the adjacent and non-adjacent initial-initial cases respectively. For example, in the four-gluon case, we find that when the initial state gluons are colour-adjacent (IIFB),

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{X}_4^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) = & \mathcal{F}_{4,adj}^0(s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}, z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_{4,nonadj}^0(s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}, z_1, z_2) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_4^0(s_{\bar{2}i}, z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{4} \mathcal{F}_4(s_{ij}, z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_4^0(s_{j\bar{1}}, z_1, z_2), \end{aligned} \quad (2.30)$$

and when the initial state gluons are not colour-adjacent (IFIF),

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{X}_4^0(\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) = & \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_4^0(s_{\bar{1}i}, z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_4^0(s_{i\bar{2}}, z_1, z_2) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_4^0(s_{\bar{2}j}, z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_4^0(s_{j\bar{1}}, z_1, z_2). \end{aligned} \quad (2.31)$$

2.1.2 Integration of colour unconnected double unresolved antennae: $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,d}$

As discussed earlier in Sect. 2.1, contributions to the double real subtraction term due to colour-unconnected hard radiators that have the generic form $X_3 \times X_3$ must also be

added back in integrated form. Each antenna is fully independent and the $(m+2)$ -particle phase space of the double real contribution factorizes into the m -particle phase space of the double virtual contribution times independent antenna phase spaces for both the inner and outer antennae. Note that each antenna phase space introduces integrals over the momentum fractions carried by the incoming partons. We label these momentum fractions as x_1 and x_2 for the inner antenna and y_1 and y_2 for the outer antenna. This contribution is then integrated over both of the antenna phase spaces to make the infrared pole structure explicit.

This leads to the following structure for the integrated double unresolved colour unconnected contribution,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,d} &= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; x_1 y_1 p_1, x_2 y_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \frac{dx_2}{x_2} \frac{dy_1}{y_1} \frac{dy_2}{y_2} \\ &\times \sum_{s,s'} \mathcal{X}_3^0(s, x_1, x_2) \mathcal{X}_3^0(s', y_1, y_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\{p\}_{m+2})|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \end{aligned}$$

where all momenta lie in the set $\{p\}_{m+2}$. Note that the invariant masses of the integrated antenna s and s' , always involve different momenta, and the type of integrated antennae are fixed by the corresponding term in $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,d}$.

The integration over x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2 reflects the fact that the integrated subtraction terms contain contributions due to radiation from the initial state such that the parton momenta involved in the hard scattering carry only a fraction $x_i y_i$ of the incoming momenta. In order to explicitly show the cancellation of ϵ -poles we need to combine this contribution with the other integrated subtraction terms present in $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,b,4}$, $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a}$ as well as the two-loop matrix elements themselves. We therefore identify the momentum fraction carried by the incoming partons $x_i y_i p_i$ with the momentum fraction carried by the double virtual contribution $z_i p_i$ by imposing the following constraint,

$$1 = \int dz_1 dz_2 \delta(z_1 - x_1 y_1) \delta(z_2 - x_2 y_2). \quad (2.32)$$

This leads to two-dimensional convolutions of integrated antennae that we perform analytically of the type,

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0](s, s'; z_1, z_2) &= \int dx_1 dx_2 dy_1 dy_2 \mathcal{X}_3^0(s, x_1, x_2) \mathcal{X}_3^0(s', y_1, y_2) \\ &\times \delta(z_1 - x_1 y_1) \delta(z_2 - x_2 y_2). \end{aligned} \quad (2.33)$$

Explicit expressions for the convolutions of the gluonic antennae relevant to this paper are given in Appendix C.

We note that the $\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0$ terms coming from $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,d}$ combine with similar terms coming from the integration of the $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,(b,c)}$ real-virtual subtraction term, and play a particular role in the infrared structure of the double virtual subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$. This will be discussed more fully in section 2.2.2.

	$d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS}$		
Final State Particles	a	a	(b, c)
$m + 1$	$X_3^1 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$	$X_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^1 ^2$	$\mathcal{X}_3^0 X_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$
m	$\mathcal{X}_3^1 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$	$\mathcal{X}_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^1 ^2$	$\mathcal{X}_3^0 \mathcal{X}_3^0 \mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0 ^2$

Table 2: Type of contribution to the real-virtual subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS}$, together with the integrated form of each term. The unintegrated antenna functions are denoted as X_3^0 and X_3^1 while their integrated forms are \mathcal{X}_3^0 and \mathcal{X}_3^1 respectively. $|\mathcal{M}_n|^2$ denotes the interference of the tree-level and one-loop n -particle colour ordered amplitude while $|\mathcal{M}_n^0|^2$ denotes the square of an n -particle tree-level colour ordered amplitude.

2.2 Contributions from integrating the real-virtual subtraction term: $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS}$

There are three different contributions to the real-virtual subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS}$ which have different physical origin:

- (a) One unresolved parton in the single radiation real-virtual contribution. Each subtraction term takes the form of a tree-level or one-loop antenna function multiplied by the one-loop or tree-level colour ordered matrix elements respectively. It is denoted by $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a}$.
- (b) Terms of the type $\mathcal{X}_3^0 X_3^0$ that cancel the explicit poles introduced by one-loop matrix elements and one-loop antenna functions present in $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a}$. This term is named $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,b}$.
- (c) Terms of the type $\mathcal{X}_3^0 X_3^0$ that compensate for any remaining poles in the real-virtual channel labelled $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,c}$,

so that

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS} = d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a} + d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,b} + d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,c}. \quad (2.34)$$

The types of contributions present in each of these terms are summarised in Table 2 and were described in a previous paper [61]. We see that a, b and c types of subtraction terms can be integrated over a single unresolved particle phase space and therefore contribute to the m -particle final state, so that

$$\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS} = \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a} + \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,(b,c)}. \quad (2.35)$$

We now turn to a detailed discussion of each of the terms in Eq. (2.35).

2.2.1 Integration of single unresolved real-virtual subtraction: $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a}$

In the antenna subtraction approach, the single unresolved configuration coming from the one-loop process with one additional particle, i.e., the real-virtual process involving $(m+3)$ partons, is subtracted using a single unresolved tree level three parton antenna multiplied by a $(m+2)$ -parton one-loop amplitude and a single unresolved one-loop three parton antenna multiplied by a $(m+2)$ -parton tree-level amplitude. Once the unresolved phase

space is integrated over, one recovers an $(m+2)$ -parton contribution that cancels explicit poles in the virtual two-loop $(m+2)$ -parton matrix element.

The integrated subtraction term, formally written as $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a}$, is split into three different contributions, depending on whether the hard radiators are in the initial or final state.

In the final-final configuration, the integrated subtraction term is given by,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a,(FF)} = \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \left\{ \right. \\ \sum_{ik} \mathcal{X}_{ijk}^0(s_{ik}, z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^1(\dots, i, k, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \\ \left. + \sum_{ik} \mathcal{X}_{ijk}^1(s_{ik}, z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0(\dots, i, k, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \right\} \quad (2.36) \end{aligned}$$

where the notation for the integrated one-loop three parton antenna function follows Eq. (2.18),

$$\mathcal{X}_{ijk}^1(s_{IK}, z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{C(\epsilon)} \int d\Phi_{X_{ijk}} X_{ijk}^1 \delta(1-z_1) \delta(1-z_2), \quad (2.37)$$

and in (2.36) the final state momenta I, K have been relabelled as i, k . Explicit integrated forms for \mathcal{X}_{ijk}^1 are available in [25].

It should be noted that X_{ijk}^1 is renormalised at a scale corresponding to the invariant mass of the antenna partons, s_{ijk} , while the one-loop parton matrix element are renormalised at a scale μ^2 . To ensure correct subtraction of terms arising from renormalisation, we have to substitute

$$X_{ijk}^1 \rightarrow X_{ijk}^1 + \frac{\beta_0}{\epsilon} X_{ijk}^0 \left(\left(\frac{s_{IK}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} - 1 \right) \quad (2.38)$$

which in integrated form reads,

$$\mathcal{X}_{ijk}^1(s_{ik}, z_1, z_2) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_{ijk}^1(s_{ik}, z_1, z_2) + \frac{\beta_0}{\epsilon} \mathcal{X}_{ijk}^0(s_{ik}, z_1, z_2) \left(\left(\frac{s_{ik}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} - 1 \right). \quad (2.39)$$

The terms arising from this substitution will in general be kept apart in the construction of the colour ordered subtraction terms, since they all share a common colour structure β_0 .

Similar integrated subtraction terms are appropriate in the initial-final and initial-initial configurations. In the initial-final case we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a,(IF)} = \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \left\{ \right. \\ \sum_{i=1,2} \sum_k \mathcal{X}_{i,jk}^0(s_{ik}, z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^1(\dots, \hat{i}, k, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \\ \left. + \sum_{i=1,2} \sum_k \mathcal{X}_{i,jk}^1(s_{ik}, z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0(\dots, \hat{i}, k, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.40)$$

where the integrated one-loop three parton initial-final antenna function for the special case $i = 1$ is defined as,

$$\mathcal{X}_{1,jk}^1(s_{\bar{1}K}, z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{C(\epsilon)} \int d\Phi_2 \frac{Q^2}{2\pi} \delta(z_1 - \hat{z}_1) \delta(1 - z_2) X_{1,jk}^1. \quad (2.41)$$

In (2.40) the final state momentum K is relabelled as k while the rescaled initial state radiator $\hat{I} = z_i p_i$. Explicit integrated forms for $\mathcal{X}_{1,jk}^1$ are available in [52].

Finally, the initial-initial integrated subtraction term is

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a,(II)} = \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} \left\{ \right. \\ \sum_{i,k=1,2} \mathcal{X}_{ik,j}^0(s_{i\bar{k}}, z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^1(\dots, \hat{i}, \hat{k}, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \\ \left. + \sum_{i,k=1,2} \mathcal{X}_{ik,j}^1(s_{i\bar{k}}, z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^0(\dots, \hat{i}, \hat{k}, \dots)|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (2.42)$$

where the integrated one-loop three parton initial-initial antenna function is defined as,

$$\mathcal{X}_{12,j}^1(s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}, z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{C(\epsilon)} \int [dp_j] z_1 z_2 \delta(z_1 - \hat{z}_1) \delta(z_2 - \hat{z}_2) X_{12,j}^1. \quad (2.43)$$

As in the initial-final case, the redefined initial state momenta are $\hat{I} = \bar{i} = z_i p_i$ and $\hat{K} = \bar{k} = z_k p_k$. Explicit integrated forms for $\mathcal{X}_{12,j}^1$ are available in [54].

So far, we have discussed the individual terms cascading down from the real-virtual subtraction term $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a}$. Collecting up the terms associated with a single colour ordering, we find a contribution of the form,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,a} = \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \\ \times \left[\mathbb{X}_3^0(\dots, z_1, z_2) \left(|\mathcal{M}_{m+2}^1(\dots)|^2 - \frac{b_0}{\epsilon} |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots)|^2 \right) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{b_0}{\epsilon} \mathbb{X}_{s,3}^0(\dots; z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots)|^2 + \mathbb{X}_3^1(\dots, z_1, z_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots)|^2 \right] \end{aligned} \quad (2.44)$$

where b_0 is the leading colour coefficient of β_0 and, for gluon scattering

$$\mathbb{X}_3^n(\dots; z_1, z_2) = \sum_{ab} \frac{1}{S_{ab}^{X_3}} \mathcal{X}_{3,ab}^n(s_{ab}, z_1, z_2), \quad (2.45)$$

$$\mathbb{X}_{s,3}^0(\dots; z_1, z_2) = \sum_{ab} \left(\frac{|s_{ab}|}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \frac{1}{S_{ab}^{X_3}} \mathcal{X}_{3,ab}^0(s_{ab}, z_1, z_2), \quad (2.46)$$

and as in Eq. (2.28), the sum runs over the colour connected pairs (a, b) in the cyclic list (...). Each integrated antenna represents the contribution obtained by inserting one unresolved particle between the hard radiator pair (a, b) . $S_{ab}^{X_3}$ is the symmetry factor associated with the integrated antenna. For gluons, $S_{ab}^{F_3} = 3$ for the final-final case, $S_{ab}^{F_3} = 2$ for the initial-final case and $S_{ab}^{F_3} = 1$ for the initial-initial case. Assembling terms for the four gluon case, we find that when the initial state gluons are colour connected, i.e. in the IIFF topology, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{X}_3^n(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) = & \mathcal{F}_3^n(s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}, z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_3^n(s_{\bar{2}i}, z_1, z_2) \\ & + \frac{1}{3}\mathcal{F}_3^n(s_{ij}, z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_3^n(s_{j\bar{1}}, z_1, z_2), \end{aligned} \quad (2.47)$$

for $n = 0, 1$, while in the IFIF case we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{X}_3^n(\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) = & \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_3^n(s_{\bar{1}i}, z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_3^n(s_{i\bar{2}}, z_1, z_2) \\ & + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_3^n(s_{\bar{2}j}, z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_3^n(s_{j\bar{1}}, z_1, z_2). \end{aligned} \quad (2.48)$$

$\mathbb{X}_{s,3}^0$ for these two processes is obtained in an obvious manner.

2.2.2 Integration of explicit poles subtraction in the real-virtual channel: $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,(b,c)}$

As discussed earlier, contributions to the real-virtual subtraction term that have the generic form $\mathcal{X}_3 \times X_3$ must also be integrated over the phase space of the unintegrated antenna. As for $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,d}$, each term present in $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,(b,c)}$ produces a contribution of the form,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,(b,c)} = & \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; x_1 y_1 p_1, x_2 y_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \frac{dx_2}{x_2} \frac{dy_1}{y_1} \frac{dy_2}{y_2} \\ & \times \sum_{s,s'} \mathcal{X}_3^0(s, x_1, x_2) \mathcal{X}_3^0(s', y_1, y_2) |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\{p\}_{m+2})|^2 J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.49)$$

The infrared structure of these terms for gluon scattering takes a very particular form. For example, if we consider a particular colour ordering of gluons (...), the structure of the $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,b}$ contribution is given by,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,b} \\ & = \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \\ & \times \left[[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0](\dots; z_1, z_2) - 2 \overline{[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]}(\dots; z_1, z_2) \right] |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots)|^2 \end{aligned} \quad (2.50)$$

where,

$$[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0](\dots; z_1, z_2) = \int dx_1 dx_2 dy_1 dy_2 \delta(z_1 - x_1 y_1) \delta(z_2 - x_2 y_2)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \times \left[\sum_{ab} \frac{1}{\left(S_{ab}^{X_3}\right)} \mathcal{X}_{3,ab}^0(s_{ab}, x_1, x_2) \right] \left[\sum_{cd} \frac{1}{\left(S_{cd}^{X_3}\right)} \mathcal{X}_{3,cd}^0(s_{cd}, y_1, y_2) \right] \\
& = \int dx_1 dx_2 dy_1 dy_2 \delta(z_1 - x_1 y_1) \delta(z_2 - x_2 y_2) \\
& \quad \times \mathbb{X}_3^0(\dots; x_1, x_2) \mathbb{X}_3^0(\dots; y_1, y_2), \tag{2.51}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\overline{[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]}(\dots; z_1, z_2) & = \int dx_1 dx_2 dy_1 dy_2 \delta(z_1 - x_1 y_1) \delta(z_2 - x_2 y_2) \\
& \quad \times \sum_{ab} \frac{1}{\left(S_{ab}^{X_3}\right)^2} \mathcal{X}_{3,ab}^0(s_{ab}, x_1, x_2) \mathcal{X}_{3,ab}^0(s_{ab}, y_1, y_2) \\
& = \sum_{ab} \frac{1}{\left(S_{ab}^{X_3}\right)^2} [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0](s_{ab}, s_{ab}; z_1, z_2) \tag{2.52}
\end{aligned}$$

where, as in Eqs. (2.28) and (2.44), the sums runs over the adjacent pairs (a, b) and (c, d) in the cyclic list (\dots) . The $[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]$ term is produced by the part of $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,(b)}$ that absorbs the poles in the one-loop matrix element, A_{m+2}^1 , while the $\overline{[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]}$ contribution comes from the antenna that corrects for the pole structure of X_3^1 .

Similarly, the contribution from the sum of $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,d}$ and $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,c}$ is given by,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,d} + \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,c} \\
& = \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{S_m} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_m^{(m)}(\{p\}_{m+2}) \\
& \quad \times \left[-\frac{1}{2} [\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0](\dots; z_1, z_2) + \overline{[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]}(\dots; z_1, z_2) \right] |\mathcal{M}_{m+2}(\dots)|^2. \tag{2.53}
\end{aligned}$$

Here, all of $\overline{[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]}$ and the three terms in $[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]$ where the invariants have at least one common hard radiator momentum are produced by $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,(c)}$. The remaining terms in $[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]$, where there is no overlap between the hard radiator momenta, come from $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,d}$.

In our example of four gluon scattering, we see that in the IIFF case,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \overline{[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]}(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) \\
& = [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0](s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}, s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0](s_{\bar{2}i}, s_{\bar{2}i}; z_1, z_2) \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{9} [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0](s_{ij}, s_{ij}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0](s_{j\bar{1}}, s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2), \tag{2.54}
\end{aligned}$$

while in the IFIF topology,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \overline{[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]}(\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) \\
& = \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0](s_{\bar{1}i}, s_{\bar{1}i}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0](s_{i\bar{2}}, s_{i\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2)
\end{aligned}$$

$$+\frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0] (s_{\bar{2}j}, s_{\bar{2}j}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0] (s_{j\bar{1}}, s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2). \quad (2.55)$$

Explicit expressions for the convolutions of the gluonic antennae relevant to this paper are given in Appendix C.

3. Gluon scattering at LO and NLO

In this section we discuss gluon amplitudes and gluon scattering up to NLO.

3.1 Gluonic amplitudes

The leading colour contribution to the m -gluon n -loop amplitude can be written as [64, 65, 66, 67, 68],

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{A}_m^n(\{p_i, \lambda_i, a_i\}) \\ &= 2^{m/2} g^{m-2} \left(\frac{g^2 N C(\epsilon)}{2} \right)^n \sum_{\sigma \in S_m/Z_m} \text{Tr}(T^{a_{\sigma(1)}} \dots T^{a_{\sigma(m)}}) \mathcal{A}_m^n(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(m)). \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

where the permutation sum, S_m/Z_m is the group of non-cyclic permutations of m symbols. We systematically extract a loop factor of $C(\epsilon)/2$ per loop with $C(\epsilon)$ defined in (2.11). The helicity information is not relevant to the discussion of the subtraction terms and from now on, we will systematically suppress the helicity labels. The T^a are fundamental representation $SU(N)$ colour matrices, normalised such that $\text{Tr}(T^a T^b) = \delta^{ab}/2$. $\mathcal{A}_m^n(1, \dots, n)$ denotes the n -loop colour ordered *partial amplitude*. It is gauge invariant, as well as being invariant under cyclic permutations of the gluons. For simplicity, we will frequently denote the momentum p_j of gluon j by j .

At leading colour, the n -loop $(m+2)$ -gluon contribution to the M -jet cross section is given by,

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma} &= \mathcal{N}_{m+2}^n d\Phi_m(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}; p_1, p_2) \frac{1}{m!} \\ &\times \sum_{\sigma \in S_{m+2}/Z_{m+2}} A_{m+2}^n(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(m+2)) J_M^{(m)}(p_3, \dots, p_{m+2}) \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

where

$$A_m^n(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(m)) = \sum_{\text{helicities}} \sum_{i=0, n} \mathcal{A}_m^{i\dagger}(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(m)) \mathcal{A}_m^{n-i}(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(m)) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{N^2}\right) \quad (3.3)$$

encodes the summed and squared matrix elements such that, for example, A_m^2 includes both the interference of two-loop graphs with tree-level as well as the square of the one-loop contribution.

The normalisation factor \mathcal{N}_{m+2}^n includes the average over initial spins and colours and is given by,

$$\mathcal{N}_{m+2}^n = \mathcal{N}_{LO} \times \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right)^{m-2} \frac{\bar{C}(\epsilon)^{m+n-2}}{C(\epsilon)^{m-2}}, \quad (3.4)$$

where for the $2 \rightarrow 2$ Born process, \mathcal{N}_{LO} is given in Eq. (2.13). As usual, we have converted g^2 into α_s using the useful factors $C(\epsilon)$ (2.11) and $\bar{C}(\epsilon)$ (2.12),

$$g^2 N C(\epsilon) = \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right) \bar{C}(\epsilon).$$

The dijet cross section is obtained by setting $M = 2$ in (3.2). At NLO, $m + n = 3$; the virtual contribution has $m = 2$ and $n = 1$, while the real radiation component has $m = 3$ and $n = 0$. At NNLO, $m + n = 4$ and the various contributions are obtained by setting $m = 4$ and $n = 0$ (double real), $m = 3$ and $n = 1$ (real-virtual) and $m = 2$ and $n = 2$ (double virtual). We will encounter both A_4^2 and A_4^1 when discussing the double virtual corrections to the NNLO dijet cross section in Sect. 4.

As discussed earlier, it is convenient to introduce two different topologies depending on the position of the initial state gluons in the colour ordered matrix elements. These are labelled by the colour ordering of initial and final state gluons. We denote the configurations where the two initial state gluons are colour-connected (i.e., adjacent) or not colour-connected as IIFF and IFIF respectively,

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{LO} = d\hat{\sigma}_{LO}^{IIFF} + d\hat{\sigma}_{LO}^{IFIF}, \quad (3.5)$$

where,

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{LO}^{IIFF} &= \mathcal{N}_{LO} \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; p_1, p_2) \frac{1}{2!} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) \\ &\times \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} 2 A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g), \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{LO}^{IFIF} &= \mathcal{N}_{LO} \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; p_1, p_2) \frac{1}{2!} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) \\ &\times \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g), \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

where the sum runs over the $2!$ permutations of the final state gluons.

3.2 Contributions to the gluonic final state at NLO

In this subsection, we collect up the terms that are relevant for the 2-particle final state at NLO. There are three contributions, the renormalised interference of one-loop and tree graphs, the integrated subtraction term and the NLO mass factorisation contribution.

3.2.1 The four-gluon single virtual contribution $d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^V$

The leading colour four-gluon one-loop contribution to the NLO dijet cross section is obtained by setting $m = 2$, $n = 1$ and $M = 2$ in (3.2) such that $\mathcal{N}_{NLO}^V = \mathcal{N}_4^1$ and we have,

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^{V,IHFF} = \mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right) \bar{C}(\epsilon) \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) \\ \times \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} 2 A_4^1(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \delta(1 - z_1) \delta(1 - z_2), \quad (3.8)$$

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^{V,IFIF} = \mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right) \bar{C}(\epsilon) \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) \\ \times \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} A_4^1(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) \delta(1 - z_1) \delta(1 - z_2). \quad (3.9)$$

We note that the singular part of the renormalised one-loop contribution involves the infrared singular operators,

$$A_4^1(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) = 2 \mathbf{I}^{(1)}(\epsilon; \bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0), \quad (3.10)$$

$$A_4^1(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) = 2 \mathbf{I}^{(1)}(\epsilon; \hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0), \quad (3.11)$$

where the infrared singular operators for the two permutations are given by,

$$\mathbf{I}^{(1)}(\epsilon; \bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g) = \mathbf{I}_{gg}^{(1)}(\epsilon, s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}) + \mathbf{I}_{gg}^{(1)}(\epsilon, s_{\bar{2}i}) + \mathbf{I}_{gg}^{(1)}(\epsilon, s_{ij}) + \mathbf{I}_{gg}^{(1)}(\epsilon, s_{j\bar{1}}), \quad (3.12)$$

$$\mathbf{I}^{(1)}(\epsilon; \hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) = \mathbf{I}_{gg}^{(1)}(\epsilon, s_{\bar{1}i}) + \mathbf{I}_{gg}^{(1)}(\epsilon, s_{i\bar{2}}) + \mathbf{I}_{gg}^{(1)}(\epsilon, s_{\bar{2}j}) + \mathbf{I}_{gg}^{(1)}(\epsilon, s_{j\bar{1}}), \quad (3.13)$$

with,

$$\mathbf{I}_{gg}^{(1)}(\epsilon, s_{gg}) = -\frac{e^{\epsilon\gamma}}{2\Gamma(1-\epsilon)} \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{11}{6\epsilon} \right] \left(\frac{|s_{gg}|}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon}. \quad (3.14)$$

3.2.2 The integrated NLO subtraction term $\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^S$

Within the antenna subtraction scheme, the NLO integrated subtraction terms for the IHFF and IFIF configurations are given by,

$$\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^{S,IHFF} = \mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right) \bar{C}(\epsilon) \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) \\ \times \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} \mathbb{X}_3^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) 2 A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g), \quad (3.15)$$

$$\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^{S,IFIF} = \mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right) \bar{C}(\epsilon) \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) \\ \times \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} \mathbb{X}_3^0(\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g), \quad (3.16)$$

where the relevant \mathbb{X}_3^0 are obtained by setting $n = 0$ in Eqs. (2.47) and (2.48) respectively.

3.2.3 The NLO mass factorisation term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^{MF}$

At NLO, the mass factorisation term is given by

$$\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^{MF,IIF} = -\mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right) \bar{C}(\epsilon) \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) \\ \times \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) 2 A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g), \quad (3.17)$$

$$\int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^{MF,IFIF} = -\mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right) \bar{C}(\epsilon) \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) \\ \times \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) \quad (3.18)$$

where

$$\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) = \delta(1 - z_2) \Gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(z_1) + \delta(1 - z_1) \Gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(z_2), \quad (3.19)$$

with

$$\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(z) = -\frac{1}{\epsilon} p_{gg}^0(z). \quad (3.20)$$

3.2.4 Finiteness of the NLO two-particle final state contribution

We see that the gluonic contribution to the two-particle final state in the IIF channel is given by combining Eqs. (3.8), (3.15) and (3.18), such that the combination

$$2\mathbf{I}^{(1)}(\epsilon; \bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \delta(1 - z_1) \delta(1 - z_2) + \mathbb{X}_3^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) \quad (3.21)$$

is finite, which is indeed the case. Similarly, the combination of Eqs. (3.9), (3.16) and (3.18)

$$2\mathbf{I}^{(1)}(\epsilon; \bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g) \delta(1 - z_1) \delta(1 - z_2) + \mathbb{X}_3^0(\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) \quad (3.22)$$

is also finite.

4. Double Virtual corrections for gluon scattering at NNLO

As discussed in Sect. 2, the four parton contribution consists of the genuine two-loop four parton scattering matrix element together with doubly and singly integrated forms of the six-parton and five-parton subtraction terms. In this section, we give expressions for the contributions that enter in the implementation of the double virtual correction and construct the subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$ for the IIF and IFIF topologies. Here, and as in Refs. [60, 61], we focus on the leading colour contribution to the pure gluon channel.

4.1 The four-gluon double virtual contribution $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VV}$

The leading colour four-gluon double virtual contribution to the NNLO dijet cross section is obtained by setting $m = 2$, $n = 2$ and $M = 2$ in (3.2) such that $\mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} = \mathcal{N}_4^2$ and we have,

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VV,IIF} = \mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right)^2 \bar{C}(\epsilon)^2 \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4)$$

$$\times \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} 2 A_4^2(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \delta(1-z_1) \delta(1-z_2), \quad (4.1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VV, IFF} &= \mathcal{N}_{LO} \left(\frac{\alpha_s N}{2\pi} \right)^2 \bar{C}(\epsilon)^2 \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) \\ &\times \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} A_4^2(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) \delta(1-z_1) \delta(1-z_2). \end{aligned} \quad (4.2)$$

Explicit expressions for the interference of two-loop amplitudes with tree-level and the self-interference of the one-loop amplitudes are given in Refs. [69] and [70], respectively.

The renormalised singularity structure of the two-loop contribution in Eqs. (4.1) and (4.2) can be easily written in terms of the renormalised tree-level and one-loop matrix elements [62]. For the IFF ordering we have,

$$\begin{aligned} A_4^2(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) &= 2\mathbf{I}^{(1)}(\epsilon; \bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \left(A_4^1(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) - \frac{b_0}{\epsilon} A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \right) \\ &- 2\mathbf{I}^{(1)}(\epsilon; \bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g)^2 A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \\ &+ 2e^{-\epsilon\gamma} \frac{\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)}{\Gamma(1-\epsilon)} \left(\frac{b_0}{\epsilon} + K \right) \mathbf{I}^{(1)}(2\epsilon; \bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \\ &+ 2\mathbf{H}^{(2)}(\epsilon) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0) \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

with an analogous equation for the other colour ordering. At leading colour, the constants K and $\mathbf{H}^{(2)}(\epsilon)$ are given by,

$$\begin{aligned} K &= \frac{67}{18} - \frac{\pi^2}{6}, \\ \mathbf{H}^{(2)}(\epsilon) &= \frac{e^{\epsilon\gamma}}{4\epsilon\Gamma(1-\epsilon)} \left(2\zeta_3 + \frac{5}{3} + \frac{11\pi^2}{36} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

4.2 The integrated NNLO subtraction term, $\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^S + \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS, (b, c)}$

Combining terms as discussed in Sect. 2, the integrated four parton subtraction contribution for this topology can be written as,

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(\int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S, IFF} + \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS, IFF} \right) \\ &= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) 2 \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} \\ &\times \left\{ \left[\mathbb{X}_4^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) + \mathbb{X}_3^1(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) \right. \right. \\ &\quad + \frac{b_0}{\epsilon} \mathbb{X}_{s,3}^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) - \overline{[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]}(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) \\ &\quad \left. \left. - \frac{b_0}{\epsilon} \mathbb{X}_3^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2} [\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0](\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) \right] A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \mathbb{X}_3^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) A_4^1(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \Big\}, \quad (4.5)$$

where the various combinations of integrated three parton antennae are given in Sect. 2. A similar expression with the same structure is valid for the IFIF topology.

4.3 The NNLO mass factorisation contribution $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{MF,2}$

The four-particle NNLO mass factorisation term for the IIFF topology is

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{MF,2,IIFF} = \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) 2 \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} \\ \times \left[-\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(2)}(z_1, z_2) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) A_4^1(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \right. \\ \left. - \left[\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0 \right] (\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \right. \\ \left. + \left[\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \right] (z_1, z_2) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \right], \quad (4.6) \end{aligned}$$

where $\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2)$ is given by Eq. (3.19) and $\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(2)}(z_1, z_2)$ is given by

$$\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(2)}(z_1, z_2) = \delta(1 - z_2) \Gamma_{gg}^{(2)}(z_1) + \delta(1 - z_1) \Gamma_{gg}^{(2)}(z_2) + \Gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(z_1) \Gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(z_2),$$

with

$$\Gamma_{gg}^{(2)}(z) = \frac{1}{2\epsilon^2} [(p_{gg}^0 \otimes p_{gg}^0)(z) + \beta_0 p_{gg}^0(z)] - \frac{1}{2\epsilon} p_{gg}^1(z). \quad (4.7)$$

The convolutions are given by,

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0 \right] (\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) = \int dx_1 dx_2 dy_1 dy_2 \delta(z_1 - x_1 y_1) \delta(z_2 - x_2 y_2) \\ \times \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(x_1, x_2) \mathbb{X}_3^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; y_1, y_2), \quad (4.8) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \right] (z_1, z_2) = \int dx_1 dx_2 dy_1 dy_2 \delta(z_1 - x_1 y_1) \delta(z_2 - x_2 y_2) \\ \times \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(x_1, x_2) \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(y_1, y_2). \quad (4.9) \end{aligned}$$

It is straightforward to obtain a similar expression for the IFIF topology.

4.4 The four-gluon subtraction term, $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$

By assembling the expressions given in the previous subsections, the two-particle subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{U,IIFF}$ can now be written in the suggestive way,

$$d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{U,IIFF} = - \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,IIFF} - \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,IIFF} - d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{MF,2,IIFF}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) 2 \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} \\
&\times \left\{ - \left[\mathbb{X}_3^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) \right] \right. \\
&\quad \times \left[A_4^1(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) - \frac{b_0}{\epsilon} A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \right] \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \right) \otimes \left(\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \right) \right] (\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \\
&\quad - \left[\mathbb{X}_4^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) + \mathbb{X}_3^1(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) \right. \\
&\quad + \frac{b_0}{\epsilon} \mathbb{X}_{s,3}^0(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) - \overline{[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]}(\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) \\
&\quad \left. \left. - \bar{\Gamma}_{gg;gg}^{(2)}(z_1, z_2) \right] A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g) \right\}, \tag{4.10}
\end{aligned}$$

where we have eliminated $\Gamma^{(2)}$ using,

$$\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(2)}(z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \right] (z_1, z_2) - \frac{b_0}{\epsilon} \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) + \bar{\Gamma}_{gg;gg}^{(2)}(z_1, z_2), \tag{4.11}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{\Gamma}_{gg;gg}^{(2)}(z_1, z_2) = & -\frac{1}{2\epsilon} \left[\delta(1-z_2) p_{gg}^1(z_1) + \delta(1-z_1) p_{gg}^1(z_2) \right] \\
& -\frac{b_0}{2\epsilon^2} \left[\delta(1-z_2) p_{gg}^0(z_1) + \delta(1-z_1) p_{gg}^0(z_2) \right], \tag{4.12}
\end{aligned}$$

and the explicit form of the convolution $(\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}) \otimes (\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)})$ in this topology is given in (C.6).

It is a key requirement of $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$ that it explicitly cancels the infrared poles present in the double virtual contribution $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VV}$. We previously observed that to cancel the infrared poles at NLO, the pole structure of the combination $\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}$ must reproduce that appearing in the Catani $\mathbf{I}^{(1)}$ operator as in (3.21).

With this in mind, we see that the first two lines of Eq. (4.10) correspond to the first two terms in the Catani pole structure of the two-loop contribution $A_4^2(\hat{1}_g, \hat{2}_g, i_g, j_g)$ given in Eq. (4.3). In fact these two lines give a contribution proportional to the finite part of \mathbb{X}_3^0 ,

$$\frac{b_0}{\epsilon} A_4^0 \times \mathcal{F}inite(\mathbb{X}_3^0).$$

The remaining lines in Eq. (4.10) correspond to the remaining terms in the Catani pole structure where the fourth order poles cancel and, as expected, produce a deepest pole contribution of

$$-\frac{b_0}{\epsilon^3} A_4^0 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}\right).$$

We have checked that the remaining terms in (4.10) analytically cancel against the infrared poles (that start at $\mathcal{O}(1/\epsilon^3)$) coming from the $\mathbf{I}^{(1)}(2\epsilon)$ and $\mathbf{H}^{(2)}(\epsilon)$ terms in (4.3).

The subtraction term for the IFIF topology can be constructed in an analogous manner and we find an identical structure,

$$\begin{aligned}
d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{U,IFIF} &= - \int_2 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{S,IFIF} - \int_1 d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{VS,IFIF} - d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{MF,2,IFIF} \\
&= \mathcal{N}_{NNLO}^{VV} \int d\Phi_2(p_3, \dots, p_4; z_1 p_1, z_2 p_2) \frac{1}{2!} \frac{dz_1}{z_1} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} J_2^{(2)}(p_3, p_4) \sum_{P(i,j) \in (3,4)} \\
&\times \left\{ - \left[\mathbb{X}_3^0(\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) \right] \right. \\
&\quad \times \left[A_4^1(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) - \frac{b_0}{\epsilon} A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) \right] \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \right) \otimes \left(\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \right) \right] (\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) \\
&\quad - \left[\mathbb{X}_4^0(\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) + \mathbb{X}_3^1(\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) \right. \\
&\quad + \frac{b_0}{\epsilon} \mathbb{X}_{s,3}^0(\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) - \overline{[\mathbb{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathbb{X}_3^0]}(\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) \\
&\quad \left. \left. - \bar{\Gamma}_{gg;gg}^{(2)}(z_1, z_2) \right] A_4^0(\hat{1}_g, i_g, \hat{2}_g, j_g) \right\}. \tag{4.13}
\end{aligned}$$

Once again, we see that there is a correspondence with the Catani pole structure and we have checked explicitly that Eq. (4.13) precisely reproduces this pole structure.

5. Conclusions

In this paper, we have generalised the antenna subtraction method for the calculation of higher order QCD corrections to derive the double virtual subtraction term for exclusive collider observables for situations with partons in the initial state to NNLO. We focussed particular attention on the application of the antenna subtraction formalism to construct the subtraction term relevant for the leading colour gluonic double virtual contribution to dijet production. The gluon scattering channel is expected to be the dominant contribution at NNLO. The subtraction term includes a mixture of integrated (tree-level three- and four-parton and one-loop three-parton) antenna functions in final-final, initial-final and initial-initial configurations. We note that the subtraction terms for processes involving quarks, as required for dijet or vector boson plus jet processes, will make use of the same types of antenna building blocks as those discussed here. By construction the counter-term removes the explicit infrared poles present on the two-loop amplitude rendering the double virtual contribution locally finite over the whole of phase space.

The double virtual subtraction terms presented here provide a major step towards the NNLO evaluation of the dijet observables at hadron colliders. The expressions for $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$

presented in Section 4, completes the required set of subtraction terms $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^S$ [60], $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^T$ [61] and $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$ required to render the four-, five- and six-gluon channels explicitly finite and well behaved in the single and double unresolved limits relevant for the gluon scattering at NNLO, thereby enabling the construction of a full parton-level Monte Carlo implementation at leading order in the number of colours. The ultimate goal is the construction of a numerical program to compute the full NNLO QCD corrections to dijet production in hadron-hadron collisions.

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A. Momentum mappings

The NNLO corrections to an m -jet final state receive contributions from processes with different numbers of final state particles.

In the antenna subtraction scheme, one is replacing antennae consisting of two hard radiators plus unresolved particles with two new hard radiators. A key element of the antenna subtraction scheme is the factorisation of the matrix elements and phase space in the singular limits where one or more particles are unresolved. This factorisation is guaranteed by the momentum mapping.

If we denote the sets of momenta for the M -particle process by $\{p\}_M$, then in order to subtract singular configurations from one final state, and add their integrated form back to final states with fewer particles, there needs to be a set of consistent momentum maps such that

$$\{p\}_{m+4} \rightarrow \{p\}_{m+3}, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

$$\{p\}_{m+4} \rightarrow \{p\}_{m+2}, \quad (\text{A.2})$$

$$\{p\}_{m+3} \rightarrow \{p\}_{m+2}. \quad (\text{A.3})$$

The single unresolved emissions corresponding to Eqs. (A.1) and (A.3) have been the subject of previous publications and therefore we collect here only the transformations that map singularities in the $(m+4)$ -parton process to their integrated form in the $(m+2)$ -parton process, i.e., Eq. (A.2).

If the antenna consists of two unresolved particles j, k colour linked to two hard radiators i and l , then the mapping must produce two new hard radiators I and L . Each mapping must conserve four-momentum and maintain the on-shellness of the particles involved. There are three distinct cases,

$$\text{final} - \text{final configuration} \quad ijkl \rightarrow IL$$

initial – final configuration	$\hat{i}jkl \rightarrow \hat{I}L$
initial – initial configuration	$\hat{i}jk\hat{l} \rightarrow \hat{I}\hat{L}$

where, as usual, initial state particles are denoted by a hat. In principle, the momenta not involved in the antenna are also affected by the mapping. For the final-final and initial-final maps, this is trivial. Only in the initial-initial case are the spectator momenta actually modified. The momentum transformations for these three mappings are described in Refs. [71, 51] and are recalled below.

A.1 Final-Final mapping

The final-final mapping is given in [71] and reads,

$$\begin{aligned} p_I^\mu &\equiv \widetilde{p_{(ijk)}^\mu} = x p_i^\mu + r_1 p_j^\mu + r_2 p_k^\mu + z p_l^\mu, \\ p_L^\mu &\equiv \widetilde{p_{(jkl)}^\mu} = (1-x) p_i^\mu + (1-r_1) p_j^\mu + (1-r_2) p_k^\mu + (1-z) p_l^\mu, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.4})$$

with $p_I^2 = p_L^2 = 0$. Defining $s_{kl} = (p_k + p_l)^2$, the coefficients x, r_1, r_2, z are given by [71],

$$\begin{aligned} r_1 &= \frac{s_{jk} + s_{jl}}{s_{ij} + s_{jk} + s_{jl}}, \\ r_2 &= \frac{s_{kl}}{s_{ik} + s_{jk} + s_{kl}}, \\ x &= \frac{1}{2(s_{ij} + s_{ik} + s_{il})} \left[(1+\rho) s_{ijkl} - r_1 (s_{jk} + 2 s_{jl}) - r_2 (s_{jk} + 2 s_{kl}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (r_1 - r_2) \frac{s_{ij} s_{kl} - s_{ik} s_{jl}}{s_{il}} \right], \\ z &= \frac{1}{2(s_{il} + s_{jl} + s_{kl})} \left[(1-\rho) s_{ijkl} - r_1 (s_{jk} + 2 s_{ij}) - r_2 (s_{jk} + 2 s_{ik}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - (r_1 - r_2) \frac{s_{ij} s_{kl} - s_{ik} s_{jl}}{s_{il}} \right], \\ \rho &= \left[1 + \frac{(r_1 - r_2)^2}{s_{il}^2 s_{ijkl}} \lambda(s_{ij} s_{kl}, s_{il} s_{jk}, s_{ik} s_{jl}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{s_{il} s_{ijkl}} \left\{ 2 (r_1 (1-r_2) + r_2 (1-r_1)) (s_{ij} s_{kl} + s_{ik} s_{jl} - s_{jk} s_{il}) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + 4 r_1 (1-r_1) s_{ij} s_{jl} + 4 r_2 (1-r_2) s_{ik} s_{kl} \right\} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}, \\ \lambda(u, v, w) &= u^2 + v^2 + w^2 - 2(uv + uw + vw). \end{aligned}$$

This mapping smoothly interpolates all colour connected double unresolved singularities. It satisfies the following properties;

$\widetilde{p_{(ijk)}} \rightarrow p_i,$	$\widetilde{p_{(jkl)}} \rightarrow p_l$	when $p_j, p_k \rightarrow 0,$
$\widetilde{p_{(ijk)}} \rightarrow p_i + p_j + p_k,$	$\widetilde{p_{(jkl)}} \rightarrow p_l$	when $p_i \parallel p_j \parallel p_k,$
$\widetilde{p_{(ijk)}} \rightarrow p_i,$	$\widetilde{p_{(jkl)}} \rightarrow p_l + p_k + p_j$	when $p_j \parallel p_k \parallel p_l,$

$$\begin{aligned}
p_{\widetilde{(ijk)}} &\rightarrow p_i, & p_{\widetilde{(jkl)}} &\rightarrow p_l + p_k && \text{when } p_j \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } p_k \parallel p_l, \\
p_{\widetilde{(ijk)}} &\rightarrow p_i + p_j, & p_{\widetilde{(jkl)}} &\rightarrow p_j && \text{when } p_k \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } p_i \parallel p_j, \\
p_{\widetilde{(ijk)}} &\rightarrow p_i + p_j, & p_{\widetilde{(jkl)}} &\rightarrow p_k + p_l && \text{when } p_i \parallel p_j \text{ and } p_k \parallel p_l.
\end{aligned} \tag{A.5}$$

A.2 Initial-Final mapping

The initial-final mapping is given in [51] and reads,

$$\begin{aligned}
p_{\hat{f}}^\mu &\equiv \bar{p}_i^\mu = \hat{z}_i p_i^\mu, \\
p_L^\mu &\equiv p_{\widetilde{(jkl)}}^\mu = p_j^\mu + p_k^\mu + p_l^\mu - (1 - \hat{z}_i) p_i^\mu,
\end{aligned} \tag{A.6}$$

with $p_{\hat{f}}^2 = p_L^2 = 0$ and where the bar denotes a rescaling of the initial state parton and \hat{z}_i is given by [51],

$$\hat{z}_i = \frac{s_{ijkl}}{s_{ij} + s_{ik} + s_{il}}. \tag{A.7}$$

The mapping satisfies the appropriate limits in all double singular configurations;

$$\begin{aligned}
p_{\hat{f}} &\rightarrow p_i, & p_{\widetilde{(jkl)}} &\rightarrow p_l && \text{when } p_j, p_k \rightarrow 0, \\
p_{\hat{f}} &\rightarrow p_i, & p_{\widetilde{(jkl)}} &\rightarrow p_k + p_l && \text{when } p_j \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } p_k \parallel p_l, \\
p_{\hat{f}} &\rightarrow p_i, & p_{\widetilde{(jkl)}} &\rightarrow p_j + p_k + p_l && \text{when } p_j \parallel p_k \parallel p_l, \\
p_{\hat{f}} &\rightarrow (1 - w)p_i, & p_{\widetilde{(jkl)}} &\rightarrow p_l && \text{when } p_j \rightarrow wp_i \text{ and } p_k \rightarrow 0, \\
p_{\hat{f}} &\rightarrow (1 - w)p_i, & p_{\widetilde{(jkl)}} &\rightarrow p_l + p_k && \text{when } p_j \rightarrow wp_i \text{ and } p_k \parallel p_l, \\
p_{\hat{f}} &\rightarrow (1 - w)p_i, & p_{\widetilde{(jkl)}} &\rightarrow p_l && \text{when } p_j + p_k = wp_i,
\end{aligned} \tag{A.8}$$

and where the roles of partons j and k can be interchanged.

A.3 Initial-Initial mapping

The initial-initial mapping for $il, jk \rightarrow IL$ is given in Ref. [51] and reads,

$$\begin{aligned}
p_{\hat{f}}^\mu &\equiv \bar{p}_i^\mu = \hat{z}_i p_i^\mu, \\
p_{\hat{L}}^\mu &\equiv \bar{p}_l^\mu = \hat{z}_l p_l^\mu, \\
\tilde{p}_m^\mu &= p_m^\mu - \frac{2p_m \cdot (q + \tilde{q})}{(q + \tilde{q})^2} (q^\mu + \tilde{q}^\mu) + \frac{2p_m \cdot q}{q^2} \tilde{q}^\mu, \\
q^\mu &= p_i^\mu + p_l^\mu - p_j^\mu - p_k^\mu, \\
\tilde{q}^\mu &= \bar{p}_i^\mu + \bar{p}_l^\mu
\end{aligned} \tag{A.9}$$

with $p_{\hat{f}}^2 = p_{\hat{L}}^2 = \tilde{p}_m^2 = 0$ and where the bar denotes rescaling of both of the initial state partons and m runs over all the particles in the final state that are not actually part of the antenna but require boosting in order to restore momentum conservation.

The rescaling of the initial state momenta are given by the fractions \hat{z}_i and \hat{z}_l given by [51],

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{z}_i &= \sqrt{\frac{s_{il} + s_{jl} + s_{kl}}{s_{il} + s_{ij} + s_{ik}}} \sqrt{\frac{s_{ijkl}}{s_{il}}}, \\ \hat{z}_l &= \sqrt{\frac{s_{il} + s_{ij} + s_{ik}}{s_{il} + s_{jl} + s_{kl}}} \sqrt{\frac{s_{ijkl}}{s_{il}}}.\end{aligned}\tag{A.10}$$

With these definitions it is straightforward to check that the momenta mapping satisfies the correct limits required for proper subtraction of infrared singularities. Specifically, in the double unresolved limits;

$$\begin{array}{lll}p_{\hat{l}} \rightarrow p_i, & p_{\hat{L}} \rightarrow p_l & \text{when } p_j, p_k \rightarrow 0, \\ p_{\hat{l}} \rightarrow (1 - w_i)p_i, & p_{\hat{L}} \rightarrow p_l & \text{when } p_j \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } p_k = w_i p_i, \\ p_{\hat{l}} \rightarrow (1 - w_i)p_i, & p_{\hat{L}} \rightarrow (1 - w_l)p_l & \text{when } p_j = w_i p_i \text{ and } p_k = w_l p_l, \\ p_{\hat{l}} \rightarrow (1 - w_i)p_i, & p_{\hat{L}} \rightarrow p_l & \text{when } p_j + p_k = w_i p_i,\end{array}\tag{A.11}$$

together with the limits obtained from these by the exchange $p_i \leftrightarrow p_l$ and $p_j \leftrightarrow p_k$.

B. Splitting functions

In this section we collect the splitting functions that appear in the NLO and NNLO mass factorisation counter terms, $d\hat{\sigma}_{NLO}^{MF}$ and $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^{MF,2}$, that are required for the construction of the double virtual subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$.

The leading colour contribution to the gluonic splitting functions read [72]

$$p_{gg}^0(y) = \frac{11}{6}\delta(1-y) + 2\mathcal{D}_0(y) + \frac{2}{y} - 4 + 2y - 2y^2,\tag{B.1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(p_{gg}^0 \otimes p_{gg}^0)(y) &= \left(\frac{121}{36} - \frac{2\pi^2}{3}\right)\delta(1-y) + \frac{11}{3}\left(2\mathcal{D}_0(y) + \frac{2}{y} - 4 + 2y - 2y^2\right) \\ &\quad + 8\mathcal{D}_1(y) - \frac{4\text{H}(0;y)}{1-y} + 12 - 12y + \frac{44}{3}y^2 - 12y\text{H}(0;y) + 4y^2\text{H}(0;y) \\ &\quad - \frac{44}{3y} - \frac{4\text{H}(0;y)}{y} - 4\text{H}(1;y)\left(\frac{2}{y} - 4 + 2y - 2y^2\right)\end{aligned}\tag{B.2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}p_{gg}^1(y) &= \left(\frac{8}{3} + 3\zeta_3\right)\delta(1-y) + 27 + (1+y)\left(\frac{11}{3}\text{H}(0;y) + 8\text{H}(0,0;y) - \frac{27}{2}\right) \\ &\quad + 2\left(\frac{1}{1+y} - \frac{1}{y} - 2 - y - y^2\right)\left(\text{H}(0,0;y) - 2\text{H}(-1,0;y) - \zeta_2\right) \\ &\quad - \frac{67}{9}\left(\frac{1}{y} - y^2\right) - 12\text{H}(0;y) - \frac{44}{3}y^2\text{H}(0;y) \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{2}{y} - 4 + 2y - 2y^2\right)\left(\frac{67}{18} - \zeta_2 + \text{H}(0,0;y) + 2\text{H}(1,0;y) + 2\text{H}(0,1;y)\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{2}{1-y}(\text{H}(0,0;y) + 2\text{H}(1,0;y) + 2\text{H}(0,1;y)) + 2\left(\frac{67}{18} - \zeta_2\right)\mathcal{D}_0(y)\end{aligned}$$

(B.3)

where we have introduced the distributions

$$\mathcal{D}_n(y) = \left(\frac{\ln^n(1-y)}{1-y} \right)_+ \quad (\text{B.4})$$

and where the notation for the harmonic polylogarithms $\text{H}(m_1, \dots, m_w; y)$, $m_j = 0, \pm 1$ follows Ref. [72, 73]. The lowest-weight ($w = 1$) functions $\text{H}(m; y)$ are given by

$$\text{H}(0; y) = \ln y, \quad \text{H}(\pm 1; y) = \mp \ln(1 \mp y). \quad (\text{B.5})$$

The higher-weight ($w \geq 2$) functions are recursively defined as

$$\text{H}(m_1, \dots, m_w; y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{w!} \ln^w y, & \text{if } m_1, \dots, m_w = 0, \dots, 0 \\ \int_0^y dz f_{m_1}(z) \text{H}(m_2, \dots, m_w; z), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (\text{B.6})$$

with

$$f_0(y) = \frac{1}{y}, \quad f_{\pm 1}(y) = \frac{1}{1 \mp y}. \quad (\text{B.7})$$

C. Convolution integrals

In this section we collect the convolution integrals that capture the infrared structure of the double virtual contribution. In the most general case, we find convolution integrals between two integrated three-parton tree-level antennae that come from the integrated double real and real-virtual subtraction terms, but also convolution integrals of an Altarelli-Parisi splitting kernel with an integrated three-parton tree-level antenna and convolution integrals of two Altarelli-Parisi splitting kernels that are produced by the mass factorisation contribution.

The convolution integrals described above are defined respectively as,

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathcal{X}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0](s, s'; z_1, z_2) &= \int dx_1 dx_2 dy_1 dy_2 \mathcal{X}_3^0(s, x_1, x_2) \mathcal{X}_3^0(s', y_1, y_2) \\ &\quad \times \delta(z_1 - x_1 y_1) \delta(z_2 - x_2 y_2), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.1})$$

$$[\Gamma_{ki}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0]_1(s; z_1, z_2) = \int dx_1 dy_1 \Gamma_{ki}^{(1)}(x_1) \mathcal{X}_3^0(s, y_1, z_2) \delta(z_1 - x_1 y_1), \quad (\text{C.2})$$

$$[\Gamma_{ki}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{X}_3^0]_2(s; z_1, z_2) = \int dx_2 dy_2 \Gamma_{ki}^{(1)}(x_2) \mathcal{X}_3^0(s; z_1, y_2) \delta(z_2 - x_2 y_2), \quad (\text{C.3})$$

$$[\Gamma_{kl}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{li}^{(1)}]_1(z_1, z_2) = \int dx_1 dy_1 \Gamma_{kl}^{(1)}(x_1) \Gamma_{li}^{(1)}(y_1) \delta(z_1 - x_1 y_1) \delta(1 - z_2), \quad (\text{C.4})$$

$$\begin{aligned} [\Gamma_{kl}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{li}^{(1)}]_2(z_1, z_2) &= \int dx_2 dy_2 \Gamma_{kl}^{(1)}(x_2) \Gamma_{li}^{(1)}(y_2) \delta(z_2 - x_2 y_2) \delta(1 - z_1) \\ &= [\Gamma_{kl}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{li}^{(1)}]_1(z_2, z_1). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.5})$$

To explicitly show the cancellation of ϵ -poles we perform the above integrals analytically. For the purpose of this paper the relevant antennae are those containing the pure gluon

final state that we recall below. The integrated final-final [25], initial-final [51] and initial-initial [51] to $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$ read, respectively,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{F}_{ijk}^0(s_{ik}, x_1, x_2) &= \left(\frac{s_{ik}}{\mu^2}\right)^{-\epsilon} \delta(1-x_1)\delta(1-x_2) \left[\frac{3}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{11}{2\epsilon} + \left(\frac{73}{4} - \frac{7\pi^2}{4}\right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right], \\
\mathcal{F}_{1,jk}^0(s_{\bar{1}k}, x_1, x_2) &= \left(\frac{|s_{\bar{1}k}|}{\mu^2}\right)^{-\epsilon} \delta(1-x_2) \left[\frac{2}{\epsilon^2} \delta(1-x_1) + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(\frac{11}{6} \delta(1-x_1) + 4 - \frac{2}{x_1} - 2x_1 \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + 2x_1^2 - 2\mathcal{D}_0(x_1) \right) + \delta(1-x_1) \left(\frac{67}{18} - \frac{\pi^2}{2} \right) - \frac{11}{6} \mathcal{D}_0(x_1) + 2\mathcal{D}_1(x_1) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{11}{6x_1} + \text{H}(0, x_1) \left(4 - \frac{2}{x_1} - \frac{2}{1-x_1} - 2x_1 + 2x_1^2 \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \text{H}(1, x_1) \left(4 - \frac{2}{x_1} - 2x_1 + 2x_1^2 \right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right], \\
\mathcal{F}_{12,j}^0(s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}, x_1, x_2) &= \left(\frac{s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}}{\mu^2}\right)^{-\epsilon} \left[\frac{1}{2\epsilon^2} \delta(1-x_1)\delta(1-x_2) + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(\delta(1-x_1) \left(2 - \frac{1}{x_2} - x_2 + x_2^2 \right. \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. - \mathcal{D}_0(x_2) \right) \right) - \delta(1-x_1)\delta(1-x_2) \frac{\pi^2}{24} + \delta(1-x_1) \left(\mathcal{D}_1(x_2) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (\text{H}(-1, x_2) - \log(2)) \left(2 - \frac{1}{x_2} - \frac{1}{1-x_2} - x_2 + x_2^2 \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \text{H}(1, x_2) \left(2 - \frac{1}{x_2} - x_2 + x_2^2 \right) \right) - \mathcal{D}_0(x_1) \left(2 - \frac{1}{x_2} - x_2 + x_2^2 \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{D}_0(x_1) \mathcal{D}_0(x_2) + \frac{1}{2x_1 x_2 (1+x_1)(1+x_2)} \left(2x_1^4 x_2^4 + 2x_1^4 x_2^3 - 4x_1^3 x_2^5 \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 2x_1^3 x_2^4 - 2x_1^3 x_2^2 + 10x_1^2 x_2^6 + 6x_1^2 x_2^5 + 2x_1^2 x_2^4 + 4x_1^2 x_2^3 + 2x_1^2 x_2^2 + 10x_1 x_2^6 \right. \\
&\quad \left. + 10x_1 x_2^5 + 4x_1 x_2^4 + 2x_1 x_2^3 + 2x_1 x_2^2 + x_1 x_2 + 2x_2 + 2 \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{(x_1+x_2)^4} \left(-10x_1^3 x_2^5 + x_1^3 x_2^3 - 22x_1^2 x_2^6 - 5x_1^2 x_2^4 + 5x_1^2 x_2^2 - 18x_1 x_2^7 \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 4x_1 x_2^5 + 2x_1 x_2^3 - 3x_1 x_2 - 5x_2^8 - x_2^6 - 4x_2 \right) + (x_1 \leftrightarrow x_2) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right].
\end{aligned}$$

To evaluate the finite part of the convolutions consistently, the integrated antennae are needed through to $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$ and computer-readable expressions can be found in files attached to [25, 51].

Convolution integrals involving the antennae above appear explicitly in the four-gluon subtraction term $d\hat{\sigma}_{NNLO}^U$ derived in section 4.4. In particular the explicit form of the convolution $(\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}) \otimes (\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)})$ for both the IIFF and IFIF topologies reads,

$$\begin{aligned}
&(\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}) \otimes (\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)}) (\bar{1}_g, \bar{2}_g, i_g, j_g; z_1, z_2) = \\
&\quad [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0] (s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}, s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0] (s_{\bar{2}i}, s_{\bar{2}i}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{9} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0] (s_{ij}, s_{ij}; z_1, z_2) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0] (s_{j\bar{1}}, s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2) + [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0] (s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}, s_{\bar{2}i}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{2}{3} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0] (s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}, s_{ij}; z_1, z_2)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}, s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{3} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{\bar{2}i}, s_{ij}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{\bar{2}i}, s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2) \\
& + \frac{1}{3} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{ij}, s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2) + \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \right]_1(z_1, z_2) + \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \right]_2(z_1, z_2) \\
& + 2\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(z_1)\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(z_2) - 2 \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_1(s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2) - 2 \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_2(s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2) \\
& - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_1(s_{\bar{2}i}; z_1, z_2) - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_2(s_{\bar{2}i}; z_1, z_2) - \frac{2}{3} \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_1(s_{ij}; z_1, z_2) \\
& - \frac{2}{3} \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_2(s_{ij}; z_1, z_2) - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_1(s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2) - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_2(s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2), \quad (C.6)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left(\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \right) \otimes \left(\mathbb{X}_3^0 - \Gamma_{gg;gg}^{(1)} \right) (\bar{1}_g, i_g, \bar{2}_g, j; z_1, z_2) = \\
& \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{\bar{1}i}, s_{\bar{1}i}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{i\bar{2}}, s_{i\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{\bar{2}j}, s_{\bar{2}j}; z_1, z_2) \\
& + \frac{1}{4} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{j\bar{1}}, s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{\bar{1}i}, s_{i\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{\bar{1}i}, s_{\bar{2}j}; z_1, z_2) \\
& + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{\bar{1}i}, s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{i\bar{2}}, s_{\bar{2}j}; z_1, z_2) + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{i\bar{2}}, s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2) \\
& + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{F}_3^0 \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0](s_{\bar{2}j}, s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2) + \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \right]_1(z_1, z_2) + \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \right]_2(z_1, z_2) \\
& + 2\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(z_1)\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(z_2) - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_1(s_{\bar{1}i}; z_1, z_2) - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_2(s_{\bar{1}i}; z_1, z_2) \\
& - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_1(s_{i\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2) - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_2(s_{i\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2) - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_1(s_{\bar{2}j}; z_1, z_2) \\
& - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_2(s_{\bar{2}j}; z_1, z_2) - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_1(s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2) - \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_3^0 \right]_2(s_{j\bar{1}}; z_1, z_2). \quad (C.7)
\end{aligned}$$

The full expressions for the convolution integrals through the finite part are quite lengthy and are attached in computer-readable form to the arXiv submission of this paper. In this section we give only the leading singular contributions. For the convolutions involving two three-parton tree-level antennae we obtain,

$$\begin{aligned}
& [\mathcal{F}_{ijk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{nop}^3](s_{ik}, s_{np}; z_1, z_2) = \left(\frac{s_{ik}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left(\frac{s_{np}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) \\
& \left[\frac{9}{\epsilon^4} + \frac{33}{\epsilon^3} + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left(\frac{559}{4} - \frac{21}{2}\pi^2 \right) + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(539 - \frac{77}{2}\pi^2 - 150\zeta_3 \right) + \left(\frac{31625}{16} - \frac{3913}{24}\pi^2 + \frac{87}{40}\pi^4 \right. \right. \\
& \left. \left. - 550\zeta_3 \right) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon), \quad (C.8)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& [\mathcal{F}_{ijk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{1,np}^3](s_{ik}, s_{\bar{1}p}; z_1, z_2) = \left(\frac{s_{ik}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left(\frac{|s_{\bar{1}p}|}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \delta(1-z_2) \left[\right. \\
& \frac{1}{\epsilon^4} [6\delta(1-z_1)] \\
& + \frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[\frac{33}{2}\delta(1-z_1) + \left(12 - \frac{6}{z_1} - 6z_1 + 6z_1^2 - 6\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right) \right] \\
& \left. + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left[\delta(1-z_1) \left(\frac{231}{4} - 5\pi^2 \right) - \frac{33}{2}\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) + 6\mathcal{D}_1(z_1) + 22 - \frac{33}{2z_1} - 11z_1 + 11z_1^2 \right] \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$+H(1, z_1) \left(12 - \frac{6}{z_1} - 6z_1 + 6z_1^2 \right) + H(0, z_1) \left(12 - \frac{6}{z_1} - \frac{6}{1-z_1} - 6z_1 + 6z_1^2 \right) \Big] \\ + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1}) \Big], \quad (C.9)$$

$$[\mathcal{F}_{ijk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{12,p}^3] (s_{ik}, s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2) = \left(\frac{s_{ik}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left(\frac{s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \Big[\\ \frac{1}{\epsilon^4} \left[3\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) \right] \\ + \frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[\frac{11}{2}\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) + \delta(1-z_1) \left(6 - \frac{3}{z_2} - 3z_2 + 3z_2^2 - 3\mathcal{D}_0(z_2) \right) \right. \\ \left. + \delta(1-z_2) \left(6 - \frac{3}{z_1} - 3z_1 + 3z_1^2 - 3\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right) \right] \\ + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-2}) \Big], \quad (C.10)$$

$$[\mathcal{F}_{1,jk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{1,np}^3] (s_{\bar{1}k}, s_{\bar{1}p}; z_1, z_2) = \left(\frac{|s_{\bar{1}k}|}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left(\frac{|s_{\bar{1}p}|}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \Big[\\ \frac{1}{\epsilon^4} \left[4\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) \right] \\ + \frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[\frac{22}{3}\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) + \delta(1-z_2) \left(16 - \frac{8}{z_1} - 8z_1 + 8z_1^2 - 8\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right) \right] \\ + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left[\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) \left(\frac{73}{4} - \frac{8}{3}\pi^2 \right) + \delta(1-z_2) \left(-\frac{44}{3}\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) + 16\mathcal{D}_1(z_1) + \frac{80}{3} - \frac{88}{3z_1} \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. - \frac{58}{3z_1} + 22z_1^2 + H(1, z_1) \left(32 - \frac{16}{z_1} - 16z_1 + 16z_1^2 \right) + H(0, z_1) \left(16 - \frac{12}{z_1} - \frac{12}{1-z_1} \right. \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \left. - 20z_1^2 + 12z_1^2 \right) \right) \right] \\ + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1}) \Big], \quad (C.11)$$

$$[\mathcal{F}_{1,jk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{2,np}^3] (s_{\bar{1}k}, s_{\bar{2}p}; z_1, z_2) = \left(\frac{|s_{\bar{1}k}|}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left(\frac{|s_{\bar{2}p}|}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \Big[\\ \frac{1}{\epsilon^4} \left[4\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) \right] \\ + \frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[\frac{22}{3}\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) + \delta(1-z_1) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_2} - 4z_2 + 4z_2^2 - 4\mathcal{D}_0(z_2) \right) \right. \\ \left. + \delta(1-z_2) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_1} - 4z_1 + 4z_1^2 - 4\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right) \right] \\ + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left[\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) \left(\frac{73}{4} - 2\pi^2 \right) + \delta(1-z_1) \left(-\frac{22}{3}\mathcal{D}_0(z_2) + 4\mathcal{D}_1(z_2) + \frac{22}{3} - \frac{22}{3z_2} - \frac{11}{3}z_2 \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \frac{11}{3}z_2^2 + H(1, z_2) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_2} - 4z_2 + 4z_2^2 \right) + H(0, z_2) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_2} - \frac{4}{1-z_2} - 4z_2 + 4z_2^2 \right) \right) \right. \\ \left. + \delta(1-z_2) \left(-\frac{22}{3}\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) + 4\mathcal{D}_1(z_1) + \frac{22}{3} - \frac{22}{3z_1} - \frac{11}{3}z_1 + \frac{11}{3}z_1^2 + H(1, z_1) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_1} \right. \right. \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \left. + \frac{4}{1-z_1} - 4z_1 + 4z_1^2 \right) \right) \right] \\ + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1}) \Big],$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -4z_1 + 4z_1^2) + \mathcal{H}(0, z_1) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_1} - \frac{4}{1-z_1} - 4z_1 + 4z_1^2 \right) - \mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_2} - 4z_2 \right. \\
& \left. + 4z_2^2 \right) - \mathcal{D}_0(z_2) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_1} - 4z_1 + 4z_1^2 \right) + 4\mathcal{D}_0(z_1)\mathcal{D}_0(z_2) + 16 + \frac{4}{z_1 z_2} - \frac{8}{z_1} + \frac{4z_2}{z_1} \\
& - \frac{4z_2^2}{z_1} - \frac{8}{z_2} - 8z_2 + 8z_2^2 + \frac{4z_1}{z_2} - 8z_1 + 4z_1 z_2 - 4z_1 z_2^2 - \frac{4z_1^2}{z_2} + 8z_1^2 - 4z_1^2 z_2 + 4z_1^2 z_2^2 \Big] \\
& + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1}) \Big], \tag{C.12}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left[\mathcal{F}_{1,jk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{12,p}^3 \right] (s_{1k}, s_{12}; z_1, z_2) = \left(\frac{|s_{1k}|}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left(\frac{s_{12}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \Big[\\
& \frac{1}{\epsilon^4} \left[2\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) \right] \\
& + \frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[\frac{11}{6}\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) + \delta(1-z_1) \left(4 - \frac{2}{z_2} - 2z_2 + 2z_2^2 - 2\mathcal{D}_0(z_2) \right) \right. \\
& \left. + \delta(1-z_2) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_1} - 4z_1 + 4z_1^2 - 4\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right) \right] \\
& + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-2}) \Big], \tag{C.13}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left[\mathcal{F}_{12,j}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{12,p}^3 \right] (s_{12}, s_{12}; z_1, z_2) = \left(\frac{s_{12}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left(\frac{s_{12}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \Big[\\
& + \frac{1}{\epsilon^4} \left[\delta(1-z_1)\delta(1-z_2) \right] \\
& + \frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[\delta(1-z_1) \left(4 - \frac{2}{z_2} - 2z_2 + 2z_2^2 - 2\mathcal{D}_0(z_2) \right) + \delta(1-z_2) \left(4 - \frac{2}{z_1} - 2z_1 + 2z_1^2 - 2\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right) \right] \\
& + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-2}) \Big]. \tag{C.14}
\end{aligned}$$

For the convolution integrals involving an integrated three-parton tree-level antenna and an Altarelli-Parisi splitting kernel we obtain,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{nop}^3 \right]_1 (s_{np}; z_1, z_2) = \left(\frac{s_{np}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \delta(1-z_2) \Big[\\
& \frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[-\frac{11}{2}\delta(1-z_1) + 12 - \frac{6}{z_1} - 6z_1 + 6z_1^2 - 6\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right] \\
& + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left[-\frac{121}{12}\delta(1-z_1) + 22 - \frac{11}{z_1} - 11z_1 + 11z_1^2 - 11\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right] \\
& + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[\delta(1-z_1) \left(-\frac{803}{24} + \frac{77}{24}\pi^2 \right) + 73 - \frac{73}{2z_1} - \frac{73}{2}z_1 + \frac{73}{2}z_1^2 - \frac{73}{2}\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right. \\
& \left. - \pi^2 \left(7 - \frac{7}{2z_1} - \frac{7}{2}z_1 + \frac{7}{2}z_1^2 - \frac{7}{2}\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right) \right] \\
& + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0) \Big], \tag{C.15}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{1,jk}^3 \right]_1 (s_{\bar{1}k}; z_1, z_2) &= \left(\frac{|s_{\bar{1}k}|}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \delta(1-z_2) \left[\right. \\
&\frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[-\frac{11}{3} \delta(1-z_1) + 8 - \frac{4}{z_1} - 4z_1 + 4z_1^2 - 4\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right] \\
&+ \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left[\delta(1-z_1) \left(-\frac{121}{36} - \frac{2}{3} \pi^2 \right) + \text{H}(1, z_1) \left(16 - \frac{8}{z_1} - 8z_1 + 8z_1^2 \right) - \text{H}(0, z_1) \left(\frac{4}{z_1} + \frac{4}{1-z_1} \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + 12z_1 - 4z_1^2 \right) + 12 - \frac{44}{3z_1} - 12z_1 + \frac{44}{3} z_1^2 + 8\mathcal{D}_1(z_1) \right] \\
&+ \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[\delta(1-z_1) \left(-\frac{737}{108} + \frac{11}{36} \pi^2 - 4\zeta_3 \right) + \text{H}(1, 1, z_1) \left(24 - \frac{12}{z_1} - 12z_1 + 12z_1^2 \right) \right. \\
&\quad + \text{H}(1, 0, z_1) \left(16 - \frac{8}{z_1} - \frac{8}{1-z_1} - 8z_1 + 8z_1^2 \right) + \text{H}(0, 1, z_1) \left(8 - \frac{8}{z_1} - \frac{8}{1-z_1} - 16z_1 \right. \\
&\quad \left. + 8z_1^2 \right) + \text{H}(0, 0, z_1) \left(-\frac{4}{z_1} - \frac{4}{1-z_1} - 12z_1 + 4z_1^2 \right) + \text{H}(1, z_1) \left(12 - \frac{55}{3z_1} - 12z_1 \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{44}{3} z_1^2 \right) + \text{H}(0, z_1) \left(14 - \frac{22}{3z_1} - 4z_1 + \frac{44}{3} z_1^2 \right) - 6\mathcal{D}_2(z_1) + \frac{11}{3} \mathcal{D}_1(z_1) - \frac{49}{12} \mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{571}{18} - \frac{73}{4z_1} - \frac{437}{18} z_1 + \frac{389}{18} z_1^2 + \pi^2 \left(\frac{5}{3z_1} - 2 + 3z_1 - \frac{5}{3} z_1^2 + \mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right) \right] \\
&\left. + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0) \right], \tag{C.16}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{1,jk}^3 \right]_2 (s_{\bar{1}k}; z_1, z_2) &= \left(\frac{|s_{\bar{1}k}|}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left[\right. \\
&\frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[-\frac{11}{3} \delta(1-z_1) \delta(1-z_2) + \delta(1-z_1) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_2} - 4z_2 + 4z_2^2 - 4\mathcal{D}_0(z_2) \right) \right] \\
&+ \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left[\frac{121}{36} \delta(1-z_1) \delta(1-z_2) + \delta(1-z_1) \left(\frac{22}{3} - \frac{11}{3z_2} - \frac{11}{3} z_2 + \frac{11}{3} z_2^2 - \frac{11}{3} \mathcal{D}_0(z_2) \right) \right] \\
&\quad + \delta(1-z_2) \left(-\frac{22}{3} + \frac{11}{3z_1} + \frac{11}{3} z_1 - \frac{11}{3} z_1^2 + \frac{11}{3} \mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right) - \mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_2} - 4z_2 + 4z_2^2 \right) \\
&\quad - \mathcal{D}_0(z_2) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_1} - 4z_1 + 4z_1^2 \right) + 4\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \mathcal{D}_0(z_2) + 16 + \frac{4}{z_1 z_2} - \frac{8}{z_1} + \frac{4z_2}{z_1} - \frac{4z_2^2}{z_1} - \frac{8}{z_2} \\
&\quad - 8z_2 + 8z_2^2 + \frac{4z_1}{z_2} - 8z_1 + 4z_1 z_2 - 4z_1 z_2^2 - \frac{4z_1^2}{z_2} + 8z_1^2 - 4z_1^2 z_2 + 4z_1^2 z_2^2 \Big] \\
&\left. + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1}) \right], \tag{C.17}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{12,j}^3 \right]_1 (s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}; z_1, z_2) &= \left(\frac{s_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left[\right. \\
&\frac{1}{\epsilon^3} \left[-\frac{11}{6} \delta(1-z_1) \delta(1-z_2) + \delta(1-z_2) \left(4 - \frac{2}{z_1} - 2z_1 + 2z_1^2 - 2\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \right) \right] \\
&+ \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left[-\frac{1}{3} \pi^2 \delta(1-z_1) \delta(1-z_2) + \delta(1-z_1) \left(-\frac{11}{3} + \frac{11}{6z_2} + \frac{11}{6} z_2 - \frac{11}{6} z_2^2 + \frac{11}{6} \mathcal{D}_0(z_2) \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \delta(1-z_2) \left(\text{H}(1, z_1) \left(8 - \frac{4}{z_1} - 4z_1 + 4z_1^2 \right) + \text{H}(0, z_1) \left(-\frac{2}{z_1} - \frac{2}{1-z_1} - 6z_1 + 2z_1^2 \right) \right) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& +4\mathcal{D}_1(z_1) + \frac{11}{6}\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) + \frac{7}{3} - \frac{11}{2z_1} - \frac{25}{6}z_1 + \frac{11}{2}z_1^2 \Big) + \mathcal{D}_0(z_1) \Big(-4 + \frac{2}{z_2} + 2z_2 - 2z_2^2 \Big) \\
& + \mathcal{D}_0(z_2) \Big(-4 + \frac{2}{z_1} + 2z_1 - 2z_1^2 \Big) + 2\mathcal{D}_0(z_1)\mathcal{D}_0(z_2) + 8 + \frac{2}{z_1z_2} - \frac{4}{z_1} + \frac{2z_2}{z_1} - \frac{2z_2^2}{z_1} - \frac{4}{z_2} \\
& - 4z_2 + 4z_2^2 + \frac{2z_1}{z_2} - 4z_1 + 2z_1z_2 - 2z_1z_2^2 - \frac{2z_1^2}{z_2} + 4z_1^2 - 2z_1^2z_2 + 2z_1^2z_2^2 \Big] \\
& + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1}) \Big]. \tag{C.18}
\end{aligned}$$

In all the cases where an initial-final antenna involves the opposite initial state leg, the resulting expression can be obtained with $(z_1 \leftrightarrow z_2)$ interchange.

$$[\mathcal{F}_{ijk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{2,np}^3](s_{ik}, s_{2p}; z_1, z_2) = [\mathcal{F}_{ijk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{1,np}^3](s_{ik}, s_{2p}; z_2, z_1), \tag{C.19}$$

$$[\mathcal{F}_{2,jk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{2,np}^3](s_{2k}, s_{2p}; z_1, z_2) = [\mathcal{F}_{1,jk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{1,np}^3](s_{2k}, s_{2p}, z_2, z_1), \tag{C.20}$$

$$[\mathcal{F}_{2,jk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{12,p}^3](s_{1k}, s_{12}; z_1, z_2) = [\mathcal{F}_{1,jk}^3 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{12,p}^3](s_{2k}, s_{12}, z_2, z_1), \tag{C.21}$$

$$[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{nop}^3]_2(s_{np}; z_1, z_2) = [\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{nop}^3]_1(s_{np}, z_2, z_1), \tag{C.22}$$

$$[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{2,jk}^3]_1(s_{2k}; z_1, z_2) = [\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{1,jk}^3]_2(s_{2k}, z_2, z_1), \tag{C.23}$$

$$[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{2,jk}^3]_2(s_{2k}; z_1, z_2) = [\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{1,jk}^3]_1(s_{2k}, z_2, z_1), \tag{C.24}$$

$$[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{12,j}^3]_2(s_{12}; z_1, z_2) = [\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{12,j}^3]_1(s_{12}, z_2, z_1). \tag{C.25}$$

For completeness we give also the convolution of two Altarelli-Parisi splitting kernels,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left[\Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \otimes \Gamma_{gg}^{(1)} \right]_1(z_1, z_2) = \\
& \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \left[\delta(1-z_1) \left(\frac{121}{36} - \frac{2}{3}\pi^2 \right) + \text{H}(1, z_1) \left(16 - \frac{8}{z_1} - 8z_1 + 8z_1^2 \right) + \text{H}(0, z_1) \left(-\frac{4}{z_1} - \frac{4}{1-z_1} \right. \right. \\
& \left. \left. - 12z_1 + 4z_1^2 \right) + 8\mathcal{D}_1(z_1) + \frac{22}{3}\mathcal{D}_0(z_1) - \frac{8}{3} - \frac{22}{3z_1} - \frac{14}{3}z_1 + \frac{22}{3}z_1^2 \right] \delta(1-z_2). \tag{C.26}
\end{aligned}$$

C.1 Convolutions of plus distributions

In this section we collect the results for the convolution of two plus distributions which appear in the convolution integrals of the previous section. They are defined as,

$$[\mathcal{D}_n \otimes \mathcal{D}_m](z) = \int dx dy \left(\frac{\ln^n(1-x)}{1-x} \right)_+ \left(\frac{\ln^m(1-y)}{1-y} \right)_+ \delta(z-xy) \tag{C.27}$$

and read,

$$[\mathcal{D}_0 \otimes \mathcal{D}_0](z) = -\zeta_2 \delta(1-z) + 2\mathcal{D}_1(z) - \frac{\text{H}(0, z)}{1-z}, \tag{C.28}$$

$$[\mathcal{D}_1 \otimes \mathcal{D}_0](z) = \zeta_3 \delta(1-z) - \zeta_2 \mathcal{D}_0(z) + \frac{3}{2}\mathcal{D}_2(z) + \frac{\text{H}(0, 1, z)}{1-z} + \frac{\text{H}(1, 0, z)}{1-z}, \tag{C.29}$$

$$[\mathcal{D}_2 \otimes \mathcal{D}_0](z) = -2\zeta_4 \delta(1-z) + 2\zeta_3 \mathcal{D}_0(z) - 2\zeta_2 \mathcal{D}_1(z) + \frac{4}{3}\mathcal{D}_3(z) - \frac{2\text{H}(0, 1, 1, z)}{1-z}$$

$$-\frac{2H(1, 0, 1, z)}{1-z} - \frac{2H(1, 1, 0, z)}{1-z} \quad (\text{C.30})$$

$$[\mathcal{D}_1 \otimes \mathcal{D}_1](z) = -\frac{\zeta_4}{4}\delta(1-z) + 2\zeta_3\mathcal{D}_0(z) - 2\zeta_2\mathcal{D}_1(z) + \mathcal{D}_3(z) - \frac{2\zeta_3}{1-z} - \frac{H(0, 1, 0, z)}{1-z} \\ - \frac{2H(0, 1, 1, z)}{1-z} - \frac{2H(1, 0, 1, z)}{1-z} - \frac{2H(1, 1, 0, z)}{1-z}. \quad (\text{C.31})$$

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